

Lawnmowing During Arias / Neighbors Protest Noise in England

It's Certainly Opera, but It Isn't Grand

By Sarah Lyall
New York Times Staff

GARSINGTON, England — Peter Rodger, who lives in this picturesque Oxfordshire village, has become accustomed to hearing noisy little snatches of opera wafting through his garden every summer. But that doesn't make him an enthusiast.

"You can hear the words, but since I'm a non-speaker of Italian or German, they don't mean anything to me," said Mr. Rodger, who doesn't dislike opera per se, although he did once attend a performance of "Carmen" at the Welsh National Opera that was so bad, he said, the audience began to boo.

"The principle of it is that the opera, as it stands at the moment, is too close to everyone else's property," he said.

Mr. Rodger's objections to the presence of the Garsington Opera here are shared by just about everyone on Southend Road, an upscale neighborhood in Garsington.

For the last nine summers, residents have been treated — if that's the word — to the intermittent sound of stirring orchestral surges, of sopranos hitting high notes and of construction crews setting up and tearing down opera-related equipment.

Leonard Ingram, a well-connected businessman, first brought opera to Garsington in 1987, when he and his wife, Rosalind, organized three performances of "The Marriage of Figaro" on their estate, Garsington Manor. The opera — an open-air affair under a canopy that evokes country-house spectacles from centuries past — flourished. This summer, three operas are being shown in 20 sold-out performances, each drawing 400 visitors in evening dress.

W HILE Garsington is no Glyndebourne, England's best known country-house opera and one that has the advantage of being miles away from any potentially pesky neighbor, it has achieved a degree of credibility and prestige in cultural and operatic circles. Garsington circles, however, are another matter. "Our feeling is, 'How can we make life difficult for them?'" said Monica Waud, who lives a stone's throw from Garsington Manor and is passionately devoted to her front lawn, particularly when the opera is in progress.

"I have always mowed my lawn when it suited me," said Miss Waud, who enjoys cutting her grass with a powerful diesel tractor that can compete with even the heaviest tractor. "Sometimes, the neighbors decide that their lawns perhaps need mowing, too. What a strange coincidence."

Miss Waud led her neighbors in a Garsington-style civil disobedience campaign several weeks ago: As the sound of "Le Pescatrici" by Haydn pierced the neighborhood, it met with a great deal of



The opera — an open-air affair under a canopy that evokes country-house spectacles from centuries past — flourishes despite the neighbors' complaints.

nonoperatic competition — the sounds of grass being cut, of hedges being trimmed, of hoses being turned on and of car alarms being set off.

In a kind of grand finale, a private plane piloted by Miss Waud's companion, Paul Giangrande, roared overhead.

Though some of the singers were unsettled, the operators themselves maintained stiff upper lips, said Clare Adams, a spokesman for the opera.

"The audience was very English," she said. "It was a bit like the Blitz. They all rallied together."

While the opera's opponents are vocal and well-organized, Ms. Adams said, they hardly speak for the entire village. For one thing, most villagers cannot hear the opera from their houses. Also, the opera provides part-time employment for caterers, program-sellers and the like, and village residents and school groups can attend dress rehearsals free.

And the opera has hired a man, Ramon Shack, whose job it is to stand in the road for hours, monitoring the noise on two machines ("one's a backup," he explained) and making regular reports to Mr. Ingram.

Mr. Ingram has also installed expensive noise-abatement screens, thick gray affairs that stand between the opera and the rest of the world.

But Mr. Rodger, for one, says that they actually contribute to the problem, by causing a ruckus when

the wind blows heavily. "The cords that hold the screens up slap against each other all night," Mr. Rodger said. "I'm getting sleep deprivation. I'm up at 2 o'clock in the morning."

IN February, the opera was granted planning permission by the Department of the Environment in what was then a Conservative government, overruling the recommendations of the local district council and causing residents to mutter darkly about a Tory Establishment cabal.

On a recent night, Miss Waud and Mr. Giangrande stood outside with Mr. Rodger and Ann Tomline, chairman of the parish council. The birds were singing; the late-night air was sultry and intoxicating.

Suddenly, the sound of an operatically high-pitched voice soared over the noise-abatement screens, across the road, over the trees and straight in to Miss Waud's garden.

"You might hear it and say, 'It's lovely,'" Mrs. Tomline said. "But who wants to hear it night after night?"

"It seems incredible that you could get a singer with that level of volume without any amplification at all," Mr. Rodger mused. "I could scream as loud as I wanted, and they would never hear me."

"Should we try?" Mrs. Tomline asked.

Ulster in Near Anarchy
As Catholics Vent Rage

The Associated Press

BELFAST — Anti-British rioters threw Roman Catholic areas of Northern Ireland into a state of virtual anarchy until dawn Monday, hijacking cars, wrecking shops and trying to kill police officers and soldiers with guns, grenades and gasoline bombs.

The violence left scores wounded, many from plastic bullets fired by the police, who were braced for a potential second night of mayhem.

A 14-year-old Protestant boy was shot through the shoulder when a military base on the "peace line" of walls dividing the Protestant and Irish Catholic parts of west Belfast came under gun and grenade attack from Catholics.

Belfast's City and Royal Victoria hospitals treated at least 24 wounded, while Altnagelvin Hospital in Northern Ireland's second-largest city, Londonderry, reported five casualties from rioting.

The Irish Republican Army, which resumed its campaign against British rule 17 months ago, claimed responsibility for shooting a policeman in the face Sunday night in the Catholic town of Coalisland.

The outlawed group was believed responsible for most of the nine gun attacks against police and army positions in Belfast late Sunday and early Monday, although a maverick offshoot of the IRA, the Irish National Liberation Army, also claimed a share of the gunplay.

Early Monday, soldiers in north Belfast dived for cover behind low brick

walls in response to sustained bursts of automatic fire ricocheting off the roadway.

And the street chaos continued Monday afternoon in west Belfast, when two passenger buses were hijacked at gunpoint and burned as roadblocks. Policemen said more than 230 vehicles had been hijacked and burned in Northern Ireland since Sunday morning.

The rioting was touched off when British authorities, unable to arrange a compromise between Protestant marchers and Catholic anti-march protesters in Portadown, forced the march through the town's main Catholic neighborhood Sunday using more than 1,000 police officers and several hundred soldiers in armored cars.

The Northern Ireland secretary, Mr. Mowlem, said Monday that she understood the anger in the Catholic community but added: "Nothing justifies the orchestrated violence we have seen in the last 24 hours."

If there had been some common sense or accommodation between the two sides, she said, it could have been avoided.

She said she would be speaking with Protestant marchers about parades due in the next days.

"I will expect to see some willingness and understanding of the events of this weekend reflected in their words and actions in the days ahead," the official said.

Orange Order marches were to continue throughout the week, including later Monday in the mostly Catholic village of Bellaghy.

No Strings on Millions,
Seoul Leader's Son Says

The Associated Press

SEOUL — A son of President Kim Young Sam told a court Monday that the millions of dollars he received from businessmen had come with "no strings attached."

Kim Hyun Chul, 37, who was arrested in May on charges of bribery and tax evasion, is the first close relative of

an incumbent South Korean president to face criminal charges. If convicted, he could face more than 10 years in prison.

"I received money from businessmen who are all my schoolmates," Kim Hyun Chul replied to a prosecutor's question during the opening trial session. "They collected the money voluntarily and gave it to me with no strings attached to it."

Wearing a gray prisoner's uniform and rubber shoes, the son emphatically denied virtually all the charges against him. The session was devoted to questioning by the prosecution.

Three state prosecutors asked more than 170 questions in an attempt to prove that the young Mr. Kim had received \$3.6 million in bribes from two businessmen seeking government favors.

The son also was charged with evading \$1.7 million in taxes on \$3.8 million he had admitted receiving from several other businessmen after his father took office in 1993.

Critics say the money was part of the \$13.7 million left over from the president's 1992 election campaign. The president's son also denied that allegation during the hearing.

Also on trial was Kim Ki Sup, a former intelligence official, accused of taking \$170,000 in bribes from a businessman seeking a cable TV license.

Mr. Kim, then the third-highest-ranking official in the Agency for National Security Planning, was dismissed after reports said he had passed documents to the president's son.

After 2 Tense Weeks, Vital Cargo Vessel Docks With Mir

By David Hoffman
Washington Post Staff

KOROLYOV, Russia — After almost two weeks of mishaps and disappointment, the Russian-American crew of the space station Mir cleared an important hurdle Monday for the repair of their stricken vessel, with the successful docking of an emergency cargo vessel.

"Thank God," said a flight controller as the Progress M-35 capsule slid into contact with Mir while anxious Russian and American specialists watched the docking on live, large-screen television screens at Mission Control here.

The view, from Progress looking out at Mir with the Earth sliding by underneath, showed the cross-hairs for aligning the two ships.

The docking occurred over central Russia, where communications with

Mir are at their best. Progress was carrying food, oxygen, water, fuel, tools, personal packages from home and a specially-outfitted hatch to allow the two Russian cosmonauts and American astronaut to reconnect some of the electrical cables lost after the June 25 accident with an earlier cargo drone.

The accident occurred during a practice docking maneuver. The mood at Mission Control was suspenseful as the bullet-shaped Progress, with solar-array like wings, sailed close to Mir. During the last incident, while under manual control, the cargo vessel came in too fast and rammed Mir, puncturing the Spektr research vessel.

This time, the docking was automatic, and picture perfect. The controllers broke into applause.

After Progress was attached to Mir, the crew decided to wait before opening the hatch and unloading more than two tons of material.

'Thank God,' said a flight controller as the cargo ship docked successfully.

said to reporters that a dangerous internal spacewalk is now scheduled for July 18, but he added, "We aren't in any rush, we want to be well prepared."

During the spacewalk, one of the Russian cosmonauts will enter the dark Spektr module and search out electric cables for reconnection to the special hatch.

The cables were disconnected right after the accident as the crew scrambled to seal Spektr. When reconnected, the cables will bring more power back to Mir from Spektr's still-operating solar array.

The procedure is risky not only because the module is airless, but also because it is cramped and may be contaminated.

The cosmonaut will be wearing a bulky life-support spacesuit.

Mr. Krikalyov simulated the spacewalk in an underwater pool on a model of Mir last week, and said he was persuaded "it can be done, and it can be done several different ways."

Mr. Krikalyov said his exercise showed that "it is possible not to go into Spektr, just halfway in, and work in the hatch."

The hazard of going all the way in is that a spacesuit could be torn or cut on jagged material.

The hatch opening is little more than two feet wide.

Mr. Krikalyov said, however, that he thought it would be "easier to spend a little more effort to go through the hatch" because it would be simpler to connect the wires.

The module was the base for much of the research work being done by the NASA astronaut Michael Foale, a physicist, who has been aboard Mir with two Russian cosmonauts for seven weeks.

Russian and U.S. officials have expressed uncertainty about additional internal damage that may have occurred in the module since the collision.

A NASA spokesman said a team is asking two questions about future American participation: Is Mir safe and "is it productive?"

He said, "We believe it's still safe to be up there," but he stopped short of professing that the venture is still productive.

TRAVEL UPDATE

72-Hour Strike to Cut BA Flights

LONDON (AFP) — Thousands of British Airways passengers face 72 hours of travel chaos starting Wednesday, when cabin crew will conduct the first in a series of three-day strikes over pay and working conditions.

Talks collapsed Sunday between the airline and the Transport and General Workers' Union, which represents 9,000 of BA's 12,000 flight attendants.

At Heathrow International Airport, at least half of BA's international flights will be canceled and three-quarters of European services grounded. At Gatwick Airport, two-thirds of BA's long-haul flights will be canceled. But domestic and

European flights from Gatwick, and international flights from regional airports will run normally.

Cameras Check All Cars in Chunnel

LONDON (AFP) — All cars using the Channel Tunnel are checked by a computerized system set up to fight crime, terrorism and drug trafficking. The Times of London reported Monday.

Cameras read license plates and the numbers are checked against central police records in London, the newspaper said. If suspect plates are sighted, a control center is alerted. The system has been functioning for three months is to be extended to vehicles taking ferries at Dover, England, the paper said.

United Adds Amenities for the Few

CHICAGO (AP) — The skies are becoming friendlier for United Airlines' first-class, business and full-fare coach passengers, who make up 9 percent of the United's customers but account for 44 percent of its revenue.

The airline is offering them shower and valet facilities in airport lounges, more comfortable seats and preferential frequent-flier programs.

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City	Today	High	Low	City	Today	High	Low	City	Today	High	Low	City	Today	High	Low	City	Today	High	Low	City	Today	High	Low
Algeria	27/80	80	60	Amsterdam	27/75	75	55	Anchorage	27/75	75	55	Algiers	27/80	80	60	Buenos Aires	27/80	80	60	Auckland	27/80	80	60
Antwerp	27/75	75	55	Athens	27/80	80	60	Atlanta	27/80	80	60	Batavia	27/80	80	60	Caracas	27/80	80	60	Brisbane	27/80	80	60
Bahia	27/80	80	60	Berlin	27/75	75	55	Boston	27/80	80	60	Beijing	27/80	80	60	Cairo	27/80	80	60	Christchurch	27/80	80	60
Bangkok	27/80	80	60	Bombay	27/80	80	60	Buffalo	27/80	80	60	Bombay	27/80	80	60	Dakar	27/80	80	60	Dunedin	27/80	80	60
Bombay	27/80	80	60	Buenos Aires	27/80	80	60	Calgary	27/80	80	60	Bombay	27/80	80	60	Delhi	27/80	80	60	Hamilton	27/80	80	60
Buenos Aires	27/80	80	60	Calgary	27/80	80	60	Chennai	27/80	80	60	Bombay	27/80	80	60	Hankow	27/80	80	60	Manila	27/80	80	60
Calgary	27/80	80	60	Chennai	27/80	80	60	Hankow	27/80	80	60	Bombay	27/80	80	60	Harbin	27/80	80	60	Medan	27/80	80	60
Chennai	27/80	80	60	Hankow	27/80	80	60	Harbin	27/80	80	60	Bombay	27/80	80	60	Kobe	27/80	80	60	Perth	27/80	80	60
Hankow	27/80	80	60	Harbin	27/80	80	60	Kobe	27/80	80	60	Bombay	27/80	80	60	Rangoon	27/80	80	60	Sydney	27/80	80	60
Harbin	27/80	80	60	Kobe	27/80	80	60	Rangoon	27/80	80	60	Bombay	27/80	80	60	Sydney	27/80	80	60	Tokyo	27/80	80	60
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Washington Post Service



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ASIA/PACIFIC

Patten Charges U.K. Yielded On Democracy In Hong Kong

The Associated Press
HONG KONG — After less than a week out of office, Chris Patten, the former governor of Hong Kong, has charged that Britain ignored the former colony's leanings toward democracy in an attempt to appease China.

His allegations drew condemnation and denial from the government in London. But Paddy Ashdown, leader of Britain's Liberal Democrats, an opposition party, demanded the release of documents that shed light on what he termed a matter of the "gravest seriousness."

Mr. Patten said that London, under a former foreign secretary, Lord Howe, entered into a "gentle" understanding with Beijing to renege on a 1984 British promise to introduce direct elections in Hong Kong starting in 1988.

Government polls conducted in the colony in 1987, Mr. Patten said, were shaped and framed in "spectacularly imaginative ways" to imply that Hong Kong's citizens neither valued nor really wanted democracy.

"There is absolutely no doubt at all that the majority wanted direct elections," Mr. Patten said in an interview with the Sunday Times of London.

"If I were a citizen of Hong Kong, I would regard it as very bad that I hadn't been kept in the know and that my views had been treated in this way," he added.

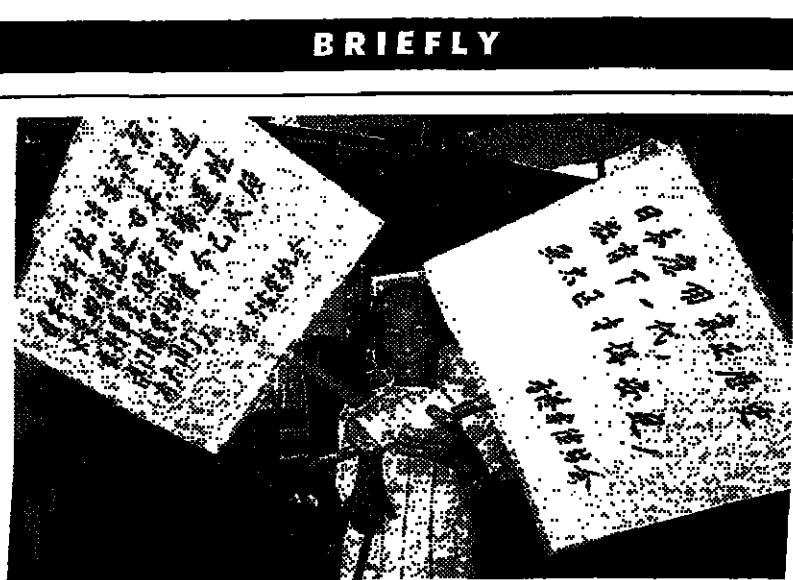
Hong Kong returned to Chinese sovereignty July 1 under a 1984 Chinese-British agreement called the Joint Declaration.

Mr. Patten, an ardent defender of democracy in Hong Kong, provoked Beijing shortly after he arrived here in 1992 by changing the election system.

He sounded this theme to the last, saying in his farewell speech last week that democracy should be the territory's "unshakable destiny."

Mr. Patten's latest remarks could well be as personal as they are ideological — a response to British diplomats who said that his democratic reforms were a futile exercise that aggravated Beijing into aborting the legislature.

"It's to be expected," said Michael Yahuda, a China specialist at the London School of Economics. "He's taken an awful lot of flak from senior British Foreign Office people, and also politicians, without being able to answer them," Mr. Yahuda said Monday on Hong Kong radio. "In a way, if they dish it out, they've got to accept some of it back."



A Hong Kong resident calling for Japan to apologize to China.

China Makes a Vow On '37 Invasion

BEIJING — Top Chinese officials opened a new wing of a memorial hall Monday marking the Japanese invasion of the country 60 years ago and vowed that a richer, stronger China would never again fall prey to outside bullying.

The deputy chairman of the Central Military Commission, Liu Huaqing, and the propaganda chief, Ding Guangen, presided over the opening of the Memorial Hall for the Chinese People's War of Resistance Against Japan near the Marco Polo Bridge in the capital.

"Although 60 years have passed, we will never forget the heinous crimes of burning, killing, raping and looting committed by the Japanese imperialists on Chinese soil," the city's Communist Party chief, Wei Jianxing, said.

The Marco Polo Bridge was the site of a July 7, 1937, clash between Japanese and Chinese forces that sparked the full invasion of China, in which 35 million Chinese died.

about 150 rebels, 15 soldiers and 5 civilians had died in fighting on Mondanago since mid-June. Officials said the figure on rebel losses was based largely on reports from villagers fleeing battle zones. (Reuters)

More Bombs Fall On Kabul Airport

KABUL, Afghanistan — Opposition jets pounded the combined military and civilian airport for the third consecutive day Monday amid accusations by Taleban that Iran and Russia were supplying the bombers.

It was still dark Monday morning when Taleban anti-aircraft guns opened fire. Three jets flew low as they dropped several bombs. One of them exploded in an empty field near a multistory apartment building. There were no reports of injuries. (AP)

Beijing Will Not Lift Ban on Missionaries

BEIJING — Leaders of two state-controlled groups that run China's Protestant churches asserted Monday that the Chinese people had religious freedom, but they ruled out allowing foreign missionaries or foreign-printed Bibles in the country.

The officials rejected complaints by religious activists that China's Communist leaders were systematically attacking independent religious activity.

"There is no general persecution in China," said Han Wenzao, president of the Chinese Christian Council. "But China being so vast, you cannot expect the policy of religious freedom to be applied completely everywhere." (AP)

Philippine Rebels Warn About Talks

MANILA — Muslim rebels threatened Monday to pull out of cease-fire talks with Manila and start a major offensive if the Philippine military attacked their main camp on Mindanao.

Al Haj Murad, military vice chairman of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front, issued the warning after new fighting broke out on the southern island. General Arnulfo Acera, said

Bar Girls Fight for Tycoon's Estate

The Associated Press
MANILA — He was an unusual tycoon, wearing tailored jeans in the offices of his corporate empire, flying a plane without a license and combining Manila's seedy nightclubs for young bar girls.

And when Larry Hillblom, the American founder of the air courier giant DHL Worldwide Express, died in a plane crash two years ago at age 52, he left behind a fight over his \$500 million estate every bit as colorful as his eccentric lifestyle.

Five young women, including three Filipina bar girls, claim he fathered their children and are pressing claims on his estate. They are pitted against his two brothers and the University of California, who were named as beneficiaries in a 1982 will left by the unmarried Mr. Hillblom.

A court in Saipan, the Pacific island where Mr. Hillblom lived for 10 years, plans to hold a trial on the competing claims this fall.

Mr. Hillblom was the "H" and majority shareholder in DHL, the company he co-founded in 1969 with Adrian Dalsey and Robert Lynn. It now employs more than 40,000 people in more than 220 countries.

The tycoon, whose body was never found, owned stakes in DHL, Air Micronesia, golf courses, a cable company and real estate in at least 10 countries.

His will did not provide for any children, but neither did it include a common provision denying any illegitimate heirs a share of his wealth — an omission

that opened the estate to paternity suits.

Three of the young women — two Filipinas and one from Palau — have filed claims so far in the Saipan court, lawyers say. One other Filipina and a Vietnamese are expected to file soon.

One of the claimants, Mercedes Feliciano, 17, contends that Mr. Hillblom met her at a Manila-area nightclub in October 1994. She says he liked her because she was a virgin and took care of her after she got pregnant.

The girls' lawyers said they believe that their paternity claims can be proved by a mole that was surgically removed from Mr. Hillblom's face in 1993 and that is still at the San Francisco hospital where he underwent surgery.

The mole is the tycoon's only known tissue sample and is sufficient to allow DNA comparisons with the seven children Mr. Hillblom allegedly fathered, the lawyers say. But the hospital has refused to relinquish the mole, according to the lawyers, who have gone to court in an attempt to obtain it.

Mr. Hillblom's relatives, meanwhile, reportedly have turned down requests for blood samples for DNA tests.

In April, Mr. Hillblom's estate held settlement talks with the various claimants in San Francisco. No agreement has been announced, and any deal would have to be approved by the Saipan court.

The man who produced all this trouble probably would not have cared. Friends and associates describe Mr. Hillblom as a man preoccupied with

adventure, sports, fun and new ways of making money.

"He was very much a bachelor," said Neil Henderson, a DHL executive in Manila. "He was interested in a wife or kids."

Mr. Hillblom, who worked as a grape picker before finishing law school at the University of California at Berkeley, generally wore old jeans, a T-shirt and sneakers, even at DHL's headquarters. From his home in Saipan, he traveled often to the Philippines, Vietnam and Guam, where he had apartments and businesses including restaurants and beach resorts. He would stay for weeks in one country, then travel on to another. Along the way, he fished, golfed, flew and prowled nightclubs, friends said.

Mr. Hillblom was fond of vintage planes and narrowly escaped death when he crashed a small plane he was flying without a license in 1993. He lost an eye and severely injured his face, which doctors reconstructed with metal plates, Mr. Henderson said.

In May 1995, Mr. Hillblom and two other people left Saipan in a twin-engine amphibious plane to explore a proposed mining ash from a volcano on Pagan island, but bad weather forced them back. The plane crashed into the ocean 75 miles (75 kilometers) north of Saipan.

The bodies of the pilot, Robert Lee, and a passenger, Jesus Mafias, vice speaker of Northern Mariana's House of Representatives, were found. Mr. Hillblom's body was never located, but a court declared him dead.

Cambodian Coup Puts ASEAN in a Quandary

The Associated Press
SINGAPORE — Cambodia's Southeast Asian neighbors plan to meet this week to consider how the coup there will affect plans to admit the Phnom Penh government to their regional organization, Thailand's foreign minister said Monday.

Cambodia's scheduled admission into the Association of South East Asian Nations was only 16 days away.

The seven-nation trading bloc may be torn between its policy of noninterference in members' domestic affairs and the group's adherence to the principle of peaceful transfer of power.

At a news conference in Bangkok, delayed for four hours while Thailand coordinated a common view-

point with other members, the Thai foreign minister, Prachub Chaichayan, said ASEAN would hold a meeting in the next week to discuss Cambodia.

The Thai Foreign Ministry issued a statement that "in view of the latest circumstances, Thailand will have to closely monitor the situation and consult with other ASEAN countries on the latest developments in Cambodia, including the question of timing of its admission."

Earlier Monday, the consensus-driven ASEAN experienced the unusual phenomenon of members giving conflicting public statements on whether Cambodia should be admitted as planned at a foreign ministers' meeting in Kuala Lumpur on July 23.

"If this fighting does not stop, obviously ASEAN members will have to rethink this seriously," said Foreign Secretary Domingo Siazon of the Philippines.

A few hours earlier, Malaysia's acting prime minister, Anwar Ibrahim, told reporters that ASEAN's position "has not changed," adding, "The commitment has already been made."

ASEAN comprises Malaysia, Indonesia, the Philippines, Brunei, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam. The group decided last month to admit Burma, Laos and Cambodia, dismissing pressure from human-rights groups and Western governments over the Burmese military junta's treatment of dissidents.

In Cambodia, "domestic conflict should be resolved peacefully and the disputing parties should exercise restraint to prevent the situation from worsening," President Suharto of Indonesia said. ASEAN had accepted Cambodia as a member hoping to "bring that country to a peaceful life in this region," he said.

Several ASEAN governments urged restraint, called for a cease-fire and expressed concern Monday.

Singapore's government went further, saying: "Singapore disapproves of the change of government through violent means and calls on all parties to adhere to the constitutional processes in place in Cambodia."

BOOKS

INTO THIN AIR: A Personal Account of the Mount Everest Disaster

By Jon Krakauer. 293 pages. \$24.95.

Villard.

Reviewed by Michael Olmert

MOUNTAINS don't kill people, people do. Certainly that's one idea you stagger away with from Jon Krakauer's dramatic book. It's the definitive hour-by-hour history of the disastrous May 1996 assault on Mount Everest, when the mountain consumed 12 lives, the worst single climbing season ever. Six of 11 climbers in Krakauer's party met their deaths, including their able and enthusiastic leader, Rob Hall.

But how can you blame the mountain? We were not designed to live at 29,028 feet, the mountain's height as well as the cruising altitude of a 747. Still, we will try. Since 1924, 714 men and women have achieved the summit of Everest. In the same span, 156 died. You'd like to think that they all went gallantly and sensibly. But most didn't. They were sacrificed on the altar of bad decisions, incompetent planning, a lack of extensive high-altitude acclimatization, sudden bad weather, a failure to listen to their bodies and, possibly most fatally of all, hubris.

We must tempt fate, it seems. How else can you explain the death of photographer Bruce Herold two weeks after the carnage of May 10-12, 1996? He died on the summit, having run out of bottled oxygen and energy, after refusing to abandon his seriously behind-schedule final assault. This means he must have clambered past, and probably within a few feet of, the frozen and contorted bodies of guides Hall and Scott Fischer, a rictus of pain and icicles still on their faces.

How could he have gazed on all that and still kept going? One problem is anoxia. Body and brain will not function on limited oxygen, and under those conditions one of our survival mechanisms is to turn off rational thinking, conserving that energy for more basic functions such as breathing and pumping blood.

As with any morality play, Krakauer's drama has a rich cast of characters, good and evil. The IMAX moviemaker David Breashears jeopardized his \$6 million film by giving his team's oxygen to the rescue attempt. The New Zealand guide Andy Harris sacrificed his already debilitated body to reach friends in peril. Team leaders Hall and Fischer played both heroes and fools; they died trying to save the very lives they endangered. Most troubling of all was a New York socialite, who had to be dragged both up and down the mountain. The energy expended in moving her about meant that others died. Moreover, she was outrageously kitted out for the climb: two laptops, three 35mm cameras, video camera, digital camera, two tape recorders, CD-ROM player, printer and this: "I wouldn't dream of leaving town without an ample supply of Dean & DeLuca's Near East blend and my espresso maker." Not that she had to carry all this stuff, you understand.

The going price for attempting the summit is \$65,000. Trouble is, the powerful, rich and determined souls accustomed to getting their way don't like being turned around when they're near their goal. So Everest is merely another target for the privileged. Tour-guiding has become big business, and guide outfits like to boast that all their clients make it to the top. Some stay forever.

To be fair, the culprit in May 1996 was a sudden, hurricane-strength blizzard, resulting in whiteout and wind chill down to 100 degrees below zero. But such weather is to be expected on Everest, which is, after all, in the jet stream. Timing is everything.

This is a great book, among the best ever on mountaineering. Gracefully and efficiently written, carefully researched, and actually lived by its narrator, it shares a similar theme with another sort of book, a novel called "The Great Gatsby": i.e., the rich get away with murder.

Michael Olmert, who wrote the Discovery Channel's Everest documentary, wrote this for The Washington Post.

CHESS

By Robert Byrne

WHY should anyone with a point-and-a-half lead and just three rounds to go in a tourney of top class players work hard to win more games? The Bulgarian grandmaster Veselin Topalov found out in the Madrid International Tournament. After six rounds, he had set himself at a comfortable pace of draws to cruise safely into solo first place. But he reckoned without the remarkable zeal of Alexei Shirov, who put on a three-game winning streak that allowed him to overtake Topalov and share first place. The moral is that Topalov should not have counted him out.

The bluntest way of knocking out the 64 pawns is the 1...d5 2...ed Qb5 of the Center Counter Game, against which Black concedes White a tempo with 3...Nc3. Once considered primitive, it has taken its place in the storehouse of current openings.

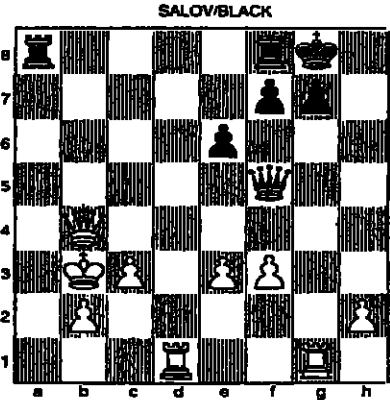
At the Hastings International Tournament at the turn of the year, a John Nunn-Stuart Conquest game went 8...Nc4 Qc7 9...Nf6 gf 10...Qd2 Nd7 (10...Bc2 11...Rc1 Bg6 12...d5 cd 13...Bb5 14...Nd4 is powerful for White) 11...O-O-O, with a slight superiority for White. In the present game, Salov chose, after 8...Nd5, to avoid

doubled f pawns by 8...Qd8 9...Nf6 Qf6. After 10...Qc2, it would have been too dangerous for Salov to pursue a pawn with 10...Bc2 because 11...d5! Qb2 12...O-O cd 13...Bb5! Nd4 14...Bc3 creates crushing threats of 15...Nd4 or 15...Rac1. Thus, the recapture with 9...Qf6 reveals its drawbacks.

And once again, after 10...Bg4 11...d5! Bf3 12...gf, Salov was afraid to accept the pawn sacrifice with 12...Qb2. Very likely he was right. For example, there might come 13...O-O cd 14...Bd5 Nc6 15...Rab1 Qc2 16...Rb7 Nd4 17...Qc3 Qe5 18...Qd4! Qd4 19...Bc6 Kd8 20...Ba5 Kc8 21...Rc7 Kf8 22...Rb1 Qb6 23...Bb6 ab 24...Rb7 Kc8 25...Rf7 Rg2 26...Bd7 Kf8 27...Be6 Rg6 28...Bc4 Ra3 29...Rb6 Kc8 30...Be6 Kd8 31...Rb8 mate.

After 16...Be4 (16...Bb7? Ra8 yields Black excellent counterplay against the white king position), perhaps Salov should have played 16...Be5. His 16...Be7 let Shirov steal a pawn with 17...Bh7 Kh7 18...Qd3 Kf8 19...Qd7.

After 20...Rh1, Salov could not play 20...Qb4? because 21...Rg4 Qf6 22...Kb3! Ra8. Shirov struck the decisive blow with 29...Rg7! Salov did not bother with 29...Kg7 30...Rg1 because 30...Kf6 31...Qh4 Ke5 falls into 32...Qd4 mate, 30...Kh8 31...Qh4 Qh7 32...Qf6 forces mate and 30...Qg6 31...Rg6 Kg6 yields Shirov a winning ending. Salov gave up.



Position after 28... Raa8

CENTER COUNTER GAME			
White	Black	White	Black
Shirov	Salov	Shirov	Salov
1 e4	d5	18 c3	O-O
2 ed	Qc5	19 Be4	Be7
3 Nc3	Qa5	17 Bh7	Kh7
4 d4	Nf6	18 Qd3	Kg8
5 Nf3	e6	19 Qd7	Ra2
6 Bc4	Bf5	20 Rhg1	Rd6
7 Bd2	e6	21 Qa7	Bc5
8 Nd5	Qd8	22 Bc3	Ra8
9 Nf6	Qf6	23 Qd7	Be3
10 Qe2	Bg4	24 Qe4	Be3
11 d5	Nf7	25 f6	b5
12 e6	cd	26 Kc2	b4
13 d6	Bd7	27 Qd4	Qf5
14 O-O-O	Ba3	28 Kb3	Ra8
		29 Rg7	Resigns

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 AU 8 JULLET 1997
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FRANCE (zone C) en FFI - TVA 20.5%
 GO: 3.70 FOD: 2.23
 SCSP: 5.34 SCSP: 5.77

UK en A - TVA 17.5% (Rout 8%)
 GO: 0.5700 FOD: 0.3476

ALLEMAGNE (zone I) DM - TVA 15%
 ZONE I - G:
 GO: 1.05
 ZONE II - F:
 GO: 1.04 SCSP: 1.43
 ZONE III - F:
 GO: 1.01 SCSP: 1.36
 ZONE IV - F:
 GO: 1.37
 ZONE V - G:
 GO: 1.03 FOD: 0.70

BELGIQUE en FFI - TVA 21%
 GO: 2.74 FOD: 10.36
 SCSP: 32.36 SCSP: 30.91

HOLLANDE (zone D) NLG - TVA 17.5%
 AU 1997
 GO: 1.297 FOD: 0.82
 SCSP: 1.987 SCSP: 1.889

LUXEMBOURG en LUFH - TVA 15%
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ESPAGNE (zone A) en PTASA-TVA 18%
 GO: 82.24 FOD: 107.55 SCSP: 102.41

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صكنا من الامل

EUROPE

Bosnian Serbs Sink Into Squalor as Their Leaders Amass Wealth

By Chris Hedges
New York Times Service

BANJA LUKA, Bosnia-Herzegovina — The woman clutched half a loaf of bread and held out a small tin pot as a local Red Cross volunteer loaded out a ration of thick soup from an army field stove.

"I live up there," said the woman, Milena Vucetic, pointing to a rough, unfinished house lacking windows and a roof. "There are five of us. We sleep on the dirt floor in the basement. We take turns going for water. I have some onions — tonight we will have onions with the soup."

"We all had homes in Sarajevo. We were neighbors. Now we live like animals rooting around in the forest," Mrs. Vucetic, a 53-year-old widow in a frayed black dress, gingerly put the lid on her soup ration and began walking up the dirt road to her dwelling. The soup line, made up mostly of elderly, forlorn-looking men and women, inched si-

lently forward. For these 60 people, the soup would be the only meal of the day.

It is to lives like this that the Bosnian Serb leaders, now quarreling over power and privilege, have brought many of the 800,000 Bosnian Serbs in what the leaders call the Republika Srpska. At least 10 percent of the population depends on soup kitchens run by the International Committee of the Red Cross. The factories have been wrecked and lie idle. Roads, water systems and electrical grids are crumbling with neglect, leaving many villages without modern amenities.

Salaries for teachers, doctors and government workers are six months in arrears. The unemployment rate is 90 percent. More than a third of the Bosnian Serb population, some 300,000 people like Mrs. Vucetic, who were displaced by the war, now live a life of abject destitution.

For most Bosnian Serbs, the current dispute between their former leader,

Radovan Karadzic, who still calls the shots but stepped down under international pressure because he has been indicted for war crimes, and Biljana Plavsic, the figurehead Bosnian Serb president, holds little interest. Even the 2,000 people who gather each afternoon in Banja Luka at the rally organized by her office seem bemused and indifferent about the outcome.

"This is an argument about how the ruling clique should divide the money between themselves," said Mile Andic, 72, a retired waiter, as he stood listening to bombastic speeches over huge black loudspeakers.

"It has nothing to do with us. If our leaders really cared about us they would not have led us into this tunnel of hell."

Under the Dayton peace agreement,

the Serbian enclave, which makes up about half of Bosnia, was to be integrated into a state jointly run by Muslims and Bosnian Croats and Serbs. Refugees and displaced people were supposed to be permitted to return to their homes. And indicted war criminals, like Mr. Karadzic and General Ratko Mladic, who is still firmly in charge of the Bosnian Serb Army, were to be handed over to the international war crimes tribunal in The Hague.

But the goals outlined at Dayton remain illusive. The Bosnian Serb leaders, along with the Bosnian Croats who control about 20 percent of Bosnia-Herzegovina, steadily reinforce the ethnic partition lines and refuse to cooperate with the Bosnian Muslims or to honor the peace agreement.

The refusal of Bosnian Serb leaders

to comply with the agreement has caused international agencies to cut off aid. It has also helped the ruling clique to grow very rich. Besides having a monopoly on cigarette and gasoline sales, it controls every significant production facility and institution, Western diplomats say.

"The ruling party runs the hospital in Banja Luka," the largest city in the Serbian-held sector, said a surgeon who spoke on condition of anonymity. "When we get donated medicine from the Red Cross, these party bosses take it to their pharmacies for sale."

Mr. Karadzic and his followers have expropriated the largest houses, dress in flashy suits, drive luxury sedans and are surrounded by bodyguards. But as the leadership amasses wealth, the Bosnian Serb enclave that it governs sinks.

"We have had three strikes this year, each lasting two weeks, to try and get the government to pay our salaries," said Radmila Rodic, 26, who teaches first grade, for which she is supposed to

earn \$20 a month. "But none of the strikes did any good. We have not been paid for six months. My generation is leaving."

A dark, frenetic despair is gripping the enclave.

Banja Luka, like Pale, is dominated at night by crowded bars blasting grating nationalistic Serbian music until nearly dawn. Jeeps roar through the streets, ignoring stop signs and traffic. Even in the middle of towns and cities, luckless motorists are confronted by gangs of car thieves who shove the muzzles of automatic weapons in their faces.

"Robbery is just part of our lives now," said Biljana Udovcic, 25, who works in a shoe shop. "If you resist, you are killed. Death means nothing here."

European diplomats say their embassies in Belgrade, the capital of Serbia, have received more than 20,000 applications in recent months from Bosnian Serb families to immigrate. And tens of thousands more Bosnian Serbs have fled to elsewhere in Europe illegally.

'We all had homes in Sarajevo. Now we live like animals, rooting around in the forest.'

Italy Summons Army in War on Naples Mob

Reuters

ROME — The government plans to send troops to Naples to help quell a surge in mob violence that has shocked the country.

Giorgio Napolitano, the interior minister, announced the measure late Sunday, but he warned that the army alone could not defeat the so-called Naples Mafia, also known as the Camorra, which is locked in a bloody intestine battle for supremacy.

"We will define within the week a provision for a limited and targeted use of the military in Naples," Mr. Napolitano said in a television interview. "But this will not solve all the problems."

More than 80 people have been killed and dozens injured in a flurry of ruthless gang warfare that has swept over the Naples area since the beginning of the year.

It is not the first time that Italy has decided to send troops into the streets. The army was called up in 1978 after the kidnapping and murder of Prime Minister Aldo Moro. More recently, soldiers have been sent to the southern region of Calabria and the island of Sardinia to help combat crime waves.

Troops are still stationed in Sicily, five years after they were sent in after the murder of a leading anti-Mafia magistrate, Paolo Borsellino.

Mr. Napolitano's decision came



Giuseppe D'Anna, left, a kingpin in the Italian Mafia, has been a fugitive for four years. At right, a government soldier patrols a street in Palermo, Sicily, where troops are helping police fight organized crime.



after another weekend of terror around the port city, which saw two suspected mobsters gunned down in broad daylight and a number of innocent bystanders, including an 8-year old girl, injured in the wild shootings.

The troops "will relieve several hundred police officers in Naples, who will then be able to deal directly in fighting the Camorra," the interior minister said in a newspaper interview

published Monday. Around 600 troops are expected to be moved into the area to help restore law and order.

Local hoteliers have complained that the sight of armed soldiers on the streets might dampen a tourist boom in Naples, but many opposition politicians said the troop deployment should have come earlier. "This is a bitter victory," said Alessandra Mussolini, granddaughter of the Fascist-era dic-

tator Benito Mussolini and a member of the rightist National Alliance. "We have been asking for the army for a year now."

About 40 Camorra clans operate in and around Naples. They have a more fragmented organization than the Mafia gangs on Sicily. Mr. Napolitano said recent police successes against the Naples mobsters had sparked battles among gangs for territory.

BRIEFLY

Fire Sears Salonika

SALONIKA, Greece — Fire fighters tamed a huge blaze early Monday that destroyed nearly half the forest outside the northern Greek city of Salonika.

The police said the fire also seriously damaged the city's Jewish cemetery, built in the 17th century and considered a masterpiece of Ashkenazi architecture. A small Byzantine church on the edge of the cemetery was destroyed.

Residents and army troops joined the battle against the fire, which initially raged on nine fronts on the heels of a heat wave. They were impeded by high winds and heavy traffic. (APF)

German Mock Video

FRANKFURT — Defense Minister Volker Ruehe has vowed to punish soldiers who were involved in making a video of mock rapes and executions as training for duty in Bosnia-Herzegovina last year.

"We will take the harshest measures against those involved and responsible for this reprehensible act, also criminal prosecution," the newspaper Bild quoted Mr. Ruehe as saying in its Monday editions.

The private television network SAT1 said it had obtained a copy of the tape and planned to broadcast it Monday. Word of the video has proved a

major embarrassment for the German Army. (AP)

Ankara Courts EU

ANKARA — The government of Turkey's new secularist prime minister, Mesut Yilmaz, pledged Monday to persevere with the country's drive to win full membership in the European Union.

"Turkey will ensure its rightful place in the new Europe that is being drawn up," said a government plan of action. The document promised rapid harmonization of laws to ease a customs union between Turkey and the EU that began last year. (Reuters)

More Freak Weather

BUCHAREST — Searing heat alternating with chilly temperatures, torrential rains and other freak weather went into its second week in parts of Eastern Europe and the Balkans on Monday, leading to deaths and substantial damage.

Among the worst hit were Romania, where at least two people died in the heat, and parts of the Czech Republic, where five people were reported missing Monday and feared drowned in the worst flooding in 40 years.

Heavy rainfall also continued for a third day in Austria on Monday, causing dozens of traffic accidents and leaving major roads impassable. (AP)

INTERNATIONAL

Codless Newfoundland Goes High Tech

By Howard Schneider
Washington Post Service

ST. JOHN'S, Newfoundland — The people of this province don't get their hopes up easily. They have seen seemingly endless shoals of cod fished to exhaustion, a prominent seal hunt declared unfashionable and millions of watts of hydroelectric power sold at bargain rates to the benefit of Quebec and the

paying off, as local companies sprout in fields such as telecommunications, navigation and mapping.

If the image of Newfoundland is framed by its position as Canada's poorest province, the reality is of a self-reliant people who have survived on "the Rock" for nearly 500 years and may finally get the rewards of their durability.

"Newfoundland has a very one-dimensional image in Canada," as a place forever in economic straits, in need of propping up by the rest of the country, said Carmelita McGrath, a St. John's writer. "People here are so used to being on the edge, there is no shame in it."

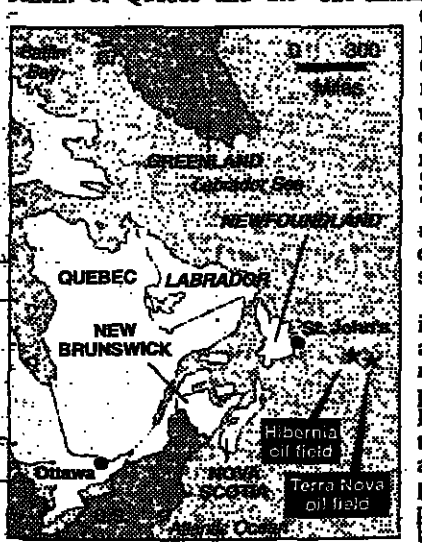
The broad statistics are discouraging: unemployment above 19 percent; education levels far lower than the Canadian average; an aging population young people move to boom provinces like Alberta and

prompted black-tie galas and the launch of a local Hibernia Beer. The platform has serrated edges around its base to fend off icebergs, but more importantly it is guarded by over-the-horizon radar and a team of ships ready to lasso even the most treacherously submerged "growler" and nudge it off course.

Actual employment is only about 600 jobs. But provincial and company officials say they already see a more important long-term effect as local firms compete for the more than \$300 million worth of goods and services that Hibernia will need each year to operate.

Optimism over such projects is hardly universal. Fishermen complain that union rules prevent their unemployed colleagues from competing for oil industry jobs. Others note that the crude oil from Hibernia, owned by the Mobil Oil Corp.-led consortium, will be refined elsewhere.

As with the hydroelectric power of the Churchill Falls project, exported under a decades-old contract with Quebec at a near-loss to Newfoundland, the province once again will not benefit fully from one of its own resources.



British Columbia, or even south to Nova Scotia, where opportunity is perceived to be better. In a work force of around 225,000, more than 100,000 receive unemployment insurance at some point during the year.

But those numbers are not the full story. Joblessness in St. John's, where the population clusters, is far lower than in the rest of the province. And even those spread among Newfoundland's numerous rural villages are by no means poverty-stricken.

For much of the time since John Cabot is believed to have landed here 500 years ago, tradition centered around fishing for the Atlantic cod that teemed along the Grand Banks. The fish helped sustain tens of thousands of Newfoundland families until 1992, when the federal government declared a moratorium on the fishery.

Modern trawling technology, poor science, mismanagement, perhaps even climate change and the resurgence of a predatory seal population — all were

United States. And that's just within the last generation.

"There are many strands to the Newfoundland soul, and one is a razor-sharp cynicism," said Bruce Porter, editor of a literary magazine in this historic port city. "We have been hoodwinked too many times."

Yet even the most hard-edged skeptics find it difficult to deny that better times may be brewing.

Two hundred miles offshore, the first of what are expected to be several oil rigs now stands in the North Atlantic, iceberg-proofed and expected to pump its first crude by year's end.

On the rugged interior of Labrador, joined with the island of Newfoundland under the same provincial government, development of the world's largest nickel mine at Voisey's Bay proceeds with the promise of thousands of construction jobs and nearly 1,600 permanent positions.

In addition, provincial officials say that efforts to steer Newfoundlanders away from centuries of fishing and into technology-based jobs are

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In addition, provincial officials say that efforts to steer Newfoundlanders away from centuries of fishing and into technology-based jobs are

United States. And that's just within the last generation.

"There are many strands to the Newfoundland soul, and one is a razor-sharp cynicism," said Bruce Porter, editor of a literary magazine in this historic port city. "We have been hoodwinked too many times."

Yet even the most hard-edged skeptics find it difficult to deny that better times may be brewing.

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In addition, provincial officials say that efforts to steer Newfoundlanders away from centuries of fishing and into technology-based jobs are

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Mr. Hillblom and two Saipan in a twin-engine to explore a proposal on a volcano on Pagan weather forced them, ashed into the ocean 45 ers) north of Saipan, the pilot, Robert Long, Jesus Mafias, vice m Mariana's House of were found. Mr. Hill's never located, but m dead.

Landary

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INTERNATIONAL



Troops loyal to Second Prime Minister Hun Sen carrying off looted goods Monday near Phnom Penh's airport.

CAMBODIA: Capital Is Tense Amid Evidence of Coup's Violence

Continued from Page 1

and television stations. Prince Ranariddh said, "I call on my people to join me, my party and all other patriotic forces to carry out resistance against Hun Sen and his partisans."

But several officials of the defeated royalist party appeared on television Monday, in the company of officials supporting Mr. Hun Sen, to tell their followers to return to their government jobs.

The appearances were an early indication that a significant portion of Prince Ranariddh's party would be willing to cooperate in the newly constituted government.

There were unconfirmed reports of armed clashes Monday in Battambang and Siem Reap provinces. But the prince's forces are badly outgunned, their leadership has been driven from the capital, and it was not clear how much resistance they could muster.

Cheha Sopha, a high-ranking official

loyal to Mr. Hun Sen, echoed his statement that Prince Ranariddh would be put on trial if he returned home. "Certainly he will be arrested," he said. "One hundred percent."

The prince's military chief, General Nhiek Bun Chhay, dropped from sight, and even his brother said he had not heard from him since Sunday. The general's stronghold near the international airport was occupied Monday by Mr. Hun Sen's troops.

Its grounds were strewn with the debris of battle, and its orange tile roofs were shattered by eight tank or mortar rounds. A nearby Buddhist temple was also hit, and fragments of religious statues were scattered on its floor.

Mr. Hun Sen's troops also occupied both the residence and party headquarters of Prince Ranariddh, which appeared to have been looted. The airport, its duty-free shops looted and its control tower damaged by gunfire, remained closed.

The clandestine radio station of the Khmer Rouge guerrillas — a potential

ally of Prince Ranariddh's forces — joined the war of words Monday, calling the armed action "a fascist coup" carried out by "the Vietnamese Communists and their puppet, Hun Sen."

The station then carried excerpts from a speech by Prince Ranariddh that was first broadcast Sunday by its arch-enemy station, the Voice of America.

The pop-pop-pop of automatic rifles could be heard occasionally around the city Monday, but few people paid attention in the relative quiet, after the thud of heavy weapons filled Phnom Penh on Saturday and Sunday.

The small-arms fire appeared to have more to do with looting than with military engagements, but one Cambodian journalist was reported to have been shot to death by nervous soldiers.

Soldiers still sporting the red ribbons that identified them during the battle as Mr. Hun Sen's troops joined thousands of looters who raided warehouses, automobile dealerships and electronics stores.

Netanyahu Resolves Coalition Crisis

Sharon, Denied Finance Portfolio, Is Loser in Infighting

JERUSALEM — Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu ended a coalition crisis with his foreign minister on Monday at the expense of the hard-liner Ariel Sharon.

Mr. Netanyahu bowed to Foreign Minister David Levy's demands to dismantle the inner "kitchen cabinet" that sets peace policy, rather than include Mr. Sharon, a former general.

The prime minister then announced that Mr. Sharon, his choice to succeed Dan Meridor as finance minister, would not get the top Treasury job. It will go instead to Yaacov Neeman, a lawyer regarded as a political lightweight.

"I think this crisis is a thing of the past," said an Israeli Radio political correspondent, Yaron Dekel. "But the crisis was not over until Sharon was denied the Finance Ministry, then bang, crisis solved."

On the face of it, Mr. Sharon, currently national infrastructure minister, should be fuming at being denied a stronger hold on Israel's purse strings and a seat at the policy table with Mr. Levy and the defense chief, Yitzhak Mordechai.

"I fear greatly that Netanyahu has planted the seeds of the next crisis because I believe that Sharon will not sit quietly now that another promise made to him was not fulfilled," said Mayor Roni Milo of Tel Aviv, a member of the ruling Likud party.

Mr. Milo was referring to Mr. Netanyahu's attempt after last year's election to freeze Mr. Sharon out of the cabinet despite purported pledges to give him a top job. It was Mr. Levy who put pressure on Mr. Netanyahu to give Mr. Sharon the infrastructure post.

Mr. Sharon would have been back in the top cabinet echelon he vacated after being forced to quit as defense minister in 1983 following the massacre by Lebanese Christians of Palestinians in two Beirut refugee camps that were surrounded by the Israeli Army.

But Mr. Levy, a wily politician who puts a premium on prestige, saw Mr. Sharon's membership as a challenge to his promised pride of place as coordinator of peace talks with the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Mr. Levy threatened to quit if Mr. Sharon joined the inner team, a move that would have left Mr. Netanyahu with a tiny majority in Parliament.

Israeli media reports said Mr. Mordechai, who political commentators say has an eye on succeeding Mr. Netanyahu should the crisis-prone prime minister fall, actively lobbied Mr. Neeman to take the Treasury job.

Mr. Sharon, 69, made no immediate comment. But Israeli Army radio said he canceled a meeting with Mr. Netanyahu on Sunday in what it called a possible sign of yet another cabinet crisis.

Mr. Netanyahu quickly exercised some damage control on Monday, publicly putting Mr. Sharon on his limited consultation list.

Mr. Netanyahu's office said the prime minister would consult "from time to time" with Mr. Sharon, Mr. Levy and Mr. Mordechai on political and military issues.

"The kitchen won't exist, but Sharon will be in the picture," one political commentator said. "He will be consulted."

He added: "He wasn't after the Finance Ministry as much as a greater say in peace moves."

Mr. Sharon, who recently branded the Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat a "war criminal," signaled his intention to raise his profile in the peace process by holding a meeting last month with top PLO official, Mahmoud Abbas, also known as Abu Mazen.

Mr. Sharon, the architect of Israel's costly 1982 invasion of Lebanon and champion of Jewish settlement in the West Bank, played host Mr. Abbas at his ranch in southern Israel, raising speculation that Mr. Sharon was trying to soften his image.

■ Confidence Vote on Netanyahu

Mr. Netanyahu was expected to survive another no-confidence vote in Parliament on Monday night. The Associated Press reported from Jerusalem.

In a tough speech in the Knesset, the opposition leader Ehud Barak told the prime minister that even if he survived the vote, "You and your ministers know the people are ashamed and tired of the disgraces and fears that have been our lot since you came to power."

Mr. Barak said Mr. Netanyahu had heightened social tensions and brought Israel to the brink of war with the Arabs, and warned lawmakers supporting him that "when the great fire erupts" they would "not be able to evade responsibility and the judgment of the people."

Justice Minister Tzvi Hanegbi, defending the government, insisted Mr. Netanyahu's public support remained strong.

The Knesset was to vote late Monday night on two motions criticizing the functioning of the government and a third dealing with the freeze in the negotiations with the Palestinians.

U.S. Seeks NATO Help on Karadzic

The Associated Press

MADRID — The United States will ask NATO leaders to help isolate Serbian leader and indicted war crimes suspect, Secretary of State Madeleine Albright said Monday.

She told reporters that the North Atlantic Treaty Organization summit meeting would discuss "possible coordinated action" against Mr. Karadzic, who is making new moves to seize power from the embattled Bosnian Serb president, Biljana Plavsic.

Mr. Karadzic has managed to retain considerable political power in the Serbian republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina and has avoided an international trial. "We will help those who help Dayton and isolate those who oppose the peace," she said.

Dayton would provide," Mrs. Albright said of the Dayton peace agreement.

The tensions in Bosnia will be the No. 1 item up for discussion when leaders from the 16 NATO states meet for lunch Tuesday, an alliance official said.

President Bill Clinton flew into Madrid on Monday for the meeting, at which the Western alliance plans to open its doors to former Soviet-bloc foes.

As for Bosnia, Mrs. Albright said, the U.S. wants coordinated NATO action against all who engage in "extralegal activities" in defiance of the peace accords.

She said she hoped the summit meeting would support Ms. Plavsic and "point out the importance of isolating those who don't support constitutional processes." U.S. officials said that international

banks would continue to deny \$800 million in reconstruction loans to the Serbs. There was no immediate indication of any plan to use force in Bosnia, where NATO peacekeepers are having difficulty carrying out the 1995 accords reached near Dayton, Ohio, to halt the ethnic war.

"Economic action is very strong action, particularly when it is coordinated," Mrs. Albright said.

The allies have repeatedly demanded that Mr. Karadzic and others let refugees return home, clear the way for the arrest of suspected war criminals and hold free elections. The summit meeting is likely to reaffirm those demands.

Mrs. Albright was briefed on the situation by Robert Gelbard, the senior U.S. envoy for the Balkans.

NATO: As Alliance Expands, Clinton and Critics Look to History

Continued from Page 1

World War II period.

"The circumstances are completely different," said Susan Eisenhower, president of the Center for Political and Strategic Studies in Washington and a granddaughter of Dwight Eisenhower, who served as NATO's first supreme commander in Europe. "Today, all of Europe is free, including the former Soviet Union. You don't have a situation where half of Europe is facing the threat of Communist aggression."

Administration officials agree that the nature of the security threat facing the United States has changed. A single, overriding threat from a monolithic source has been replaced by a multitude of different threats, including the resurgence of centuries-old ethnic conflicts that were smothered by the discipline of the Cold War.

The Clinton administration argues that a new NATO is required to deal with these new threats, many of which have

traditionally emanated from the 600-mile (1,000-kilometer) swathe of territory between Germany and Russia.

The administration's justification for such a singular extension of American military power is simple. History has shown that America ignores Europe's problems at its peril.

At the heart of the dispute is the question of the future character of the alliance. Opponents of enlargement argue that NATO has proved its worth over the past half-century and that there is no need for radical change. Their rallying cry is "if it ain't broke, don't fix it."

The Clinton administration contends that NATO enlargement has already served as an incentive to east European countries to take the first steps toward settling the kind of border disputes and minorities problems that resulted in the Yugoslav conflagration.

Opponents of expansion accuse the Clinton administration of being unable to make up its mind over whether NATO should remain a defense alliance or

whether it should evolve into a much looser collective security organization. If military defense is NATO's primary purpose, then it is obvious that the very act of taking in former Soviet bloc countries will alienate Russia. If the goal is to promote peace and friendship among NATO members, then there is no reason not to include Russia in the alliance.

The administration argues that the new NATO will be the cornerstone of a new system of international security dealing with a much wider array of threats than was the case during the Cold War.

"Unlike Marshall's generation, we face no single galvanizing threat," Secretary of State Madeleine Albright said recently at Harvard, but rather, dangers that are "more diverse."

The problem is how to dramatize the need for such a security system in the absence of a "single galvanizing threat." Critics complain that the Clinton administration has so far done an inadequate sales job.

WINNER: Cardenas's Election as Mayor Is a Major Comeback

Continued from Page 1

chance three years from now to become the first president in seven decades to be drawn from outside the governing Institutional Revolutionary Party, or PRI.

He will be an obvious rival to President Ernesto Zedillo, who defeated him in 1994, but the two men have begun a cordial new relationship. Mr. Zedillo quickly congratulated Mr. Cardenas when his triumph Sunday became obvious, and Mr. Cardenas repeatedly praised Mr. Zedillo's statesmanship.

"I think I can have constructive, collaborative relations with the president," Mr. Cardenas said during an interview on Friday in his car.

Mr. Cardenas campaigned as an honest, anticorruption pragmatist, a stance that appealed to middle class Mexicans, many of whom voted against him during his two earlier presidential bids. But he forged his opposition party in alliance with socialists and is viewed by supporters and adversaries alike as the heir to Mexico's revolutionary tradition. As a result, there is considerable curiosity here over how he will govern North America's largest city when he takes office in December.

"He's a question mark," said Federico Estevez, a political scientist here. "Will he follow an old populist-statist line? Will he try to pass rent control, or create make-work programs? Will he go out into the city's nooks and crannies and try to hand out goodies to every little group? We just don't know."

During Mr. Cardenas's campaign, he won the allegiance of kicked-around voters in the back streets and slums just by listening attentively to their complaints about PRI corruption, surging crime and the country's \$3-a-day minimum wage. He appears to have learned his barnstorming techniques from his father, General Lazaro Cardenas del



The next mayor of Mexico City.

Rio, who also loved to tour backyard regions to hear the voices of Mexico's hard-working and humble.

Mr. Cardenas Solorzano was born on May 1, 1934, the year his father became president, and in his childhood he lived the life of a revolutionary prince. He passed his boyhood pushing toy trucks past his father's feet in the presidential palace and cycling through the wooded gardens of the Los Pinos presidential compound, said Jose J. Altamirano, one of Mr. Cardenas's boyhood chums.

After gaining a civil engineering degree at Mexico's National Autonomous University, he studied in France, then pursued a private engineering career for nearly two decades. He is married to Celeste Bate; they have three children.

After one failed bid to launch a political career in 1973, he won election to the Senate three years later and, in 1980, to a six-year term as governor of his father's native state, Michoacan. His op-

ponents this year dragged out property records from that period, accusing him of enriching his family by transferring Michoacan lands to his mother, but voters seemed to dismiss them as nit-picking allegations, especially in comparison with the major league thievery practiced by other PRI functionaries.

In 1987, disgruntled with the growing dominance within the PRI of foreign-trained technocrats eager to privatize industries, many of which his father had nationalized, Mr. Cardenas split with the ruling party, and in 1988 ran for president at the head of a coalition that included Socialists and Communists.

During the 1988 campaign, Raul Salinas de Gortari, the brother of the PRI's candidate that year, arranged for federal police to tap Mr. Cardenas's phone. Mr. Cardenas's top campaign aide was slain days before the balloting. Mr. Cardenas called the slaying "a message of intimidation." On election night, the government halted the vote count and later declared Carlos Salinas de Gortari the winner. Most Mexicans believe Mr. Cardenas received the most votes.

During Mr. Salinas's six-year presidency, Mr. Cardenas campaigned actively against privatization efforts and the North American Free Trade treaty. The government targeted Mr. Cardenas and his followers with vilification in the government-controlled media and occasional repression. His party keeps a list of some 500 activists assassinated from 1988 to 1994.

After his third-place finish in the 1994, Mr. Cardenas was for a time dogged by self-doubt, associates said. "He is very self-critical, and he was wondering whether his cause was worth so much suffering," said Jesus Gonzalez Schmalz, a lawyer and friend. But this year he surged more than 10 percentage points in one month in opinion polls to take a dominant lead that he never lost.

MEXICO: Governing Party Is Rebuffed Broadly in the Elections

Continued from Page 1

vote counted, Mr. Cardenas had 47.7 percent. His closest challenger, Alfredo del Mazo of the PRI, had 25.5 percent.

As mayor of Mexico's largest city, a federal district of 8.5 million people, Mr. Cardenas will have to contend with overwhelming traffic jams, suffocating air pollution, runaway crime and severe unemployment.

"Running this city is not exactly a bed of roses," said Luis Rubio, a political analyst at the Center for the Study of Development, a think tank. "The complexity of the city is enormous."

So is "the potential for political suicide," Mr. Rubio said.

Mr. Cardenas stressed his willingness to cooperate with the federal govern-

ment, which will continue to have a large amount of power over the city's finances and security forces.

The president will still nominate Mexico City's police chief and have the power to veto the mayor's choice for attorney general. Health and education also will remain under federal control.

Mr. Zedillo congratulated Mr. Cardenas on his victory and said that the election had reaffirmed Mexico's democracy.

"I am confident that all Mexicans can say with pride and with unity that democracy has been institutionalized in our country," Mr. Zedillo said.

He could become the first Mexican president since 1913 to face an opposition legislature, ending Congress's decades-old subservience to the presidency.

Preliminary returns and surveys of selected precincts showed the National Action Party upsetting the governing party in gubernatorial races in the northern state of Nuevo Leon and in central Queretaro. The PRI apparently held onto governorships in Colima, San Luis Potosi, Sonora and Campeche.

Just a decade ago, the governing party held all of Mexico's 31 state governorships.

There were scattered reports of irregularities around Mexico during the voting Sunday. In the southern state of Chiapas, suspected supporters of the Zapatista rebels burned election material at several voting stations and ransacked two to protest the vote. The rebels announced last week that they would boycott the balloting. (AP, AP, NYT)

CAMERA: Stunning Picture Postcards From Planet's Surface

Continued from Page 1

trollers will wear special goggles to view the images in three dimensions and pick a safe path for Sojourner, Pathfinder's remote-controlled robot rover, through the rocky landscape.

The camera takes panoramic images one small "tile" at a time. Its field of view is only 14 degrees, compared with human vision that may encompass 160 degrees, or almost a complete half-circle. In a room filled with computer monitors almost to the ceiling, the image-processing team relies on high-speed computers and clever software that assembles the small postage-stamp

pictures from IMP — the "tiles" — into a complete mosaic.

Each postage stamp arrives tagged with information that indicates the direction the camera was pointing when it was taken and other identifying characteristics that help the computer fit it into its proper place.

"It's like having eyes on the surface of Mars," said a team member, Eric de Jong. As the camera roamed, "it looks just like turning your head and looking around."

The team had a mad scramble when the landing pictures began to arrive, as they pushed to get the first partial panos of the horizon out on the same day. They

processed 120 postage-stamp images within an hour.

"We were driven to this," said Mr. de Jong, "because Viking raised people's expectations. We knew the Pathfinder team, press and public would want it. We knew we couldn't get away with releasing them just as little postage stamps."

Justin Maki, 28, a postdoctoral student who is working with Mr. Smith, said the job was "like tiling a bathroom wall" but that "without a computer it would take hours or days." Noting the youth of much of the team, Mr. Maki said "It's nice that we Gen-Xers can make a little history."

MARS: Rover Sniffs and Tests Rocks for Secrets of the Universe

Continued from Page 1

olate field of rubble and orangish-pink dust on Mars.

An international panel of scientists selected the Ares Vallis landing site for Pathfinder in part because it is in an ancient plain where they believe a mighty flood once swept rocks down from the highlands and slopes.

Their judgment, it appears, has been rewarded. The Pathfinder images reveal a pattern in the rocks' tilt that conforms with the direction of such a massive current.

"We really do have the grab bag of rocks," that was hoped for, said the chief mission scientist, Matthew Golombek. To the scientists, the tiniest subtleties in the variety of colors, textures, sizes,

shapes, degree of dustiness and so forth, are of intense interest. The site not only has angular rocks like the landing sites of the Viking spacecraft in the 1970s, he said, but smooth rocks; not only average-size rocks, but also small ones and some big ones.

"On Viking 1, it took us almost the entire mission to find a dark gray or blue rock not covered with dust," Mr. Golombek said.

The geologists especially treasure the dark rocks whose true nature is not obscured by the omnipresent rusty dust.

And the smooth rocks, with their jagged edges rounded off, are consistent with transport by water. Others appear to have been thrown up from a nearby crater at a moment of impact.

Dan Britt, of the University of Ari-

zona, said the Pathfinder imaging technique, by analyzing the signatures of various chemicals in the light spectrum of the sample, shows the soil itself varies in its degree of rustiness.

At places, there is loose dust that differs from the soils solidly in place.

In fact, said a rover scientist, Henry Moore, you can tell a lot about the place from the images of the rover's historic first wheel tracks on the surface.

"You'll see the surface is indented, compressed and reflective," showing its fine grain.

The rover's right wheels passed over a rock. The fact that it didn't move or get pressed into the surface indicates "a harder layer underneath." These clues indicate the dust is about the consistency of kitchen flour, he said. (AP, WP)

مكتبة الاسرار

INTERNATIONAL

In Zaire, Tutsi Revenge Campaign Turned Sights on Mobutu

By John Pomfret
Washington Post Service

UVIRA, Congo — The Tutsi of this isolated border region of eastern Congo rose up in a rebellion early last October, backed by the armies of at least four neighboring African countries. Within eight months, the uprising that erupted in this backwater along the northern shores of Lake Tanganyika captured a mineral-rich country twice the size of Texas and toppled one of the most corrupt regimes of the late 20th century.

The swift campaign, in which rebel troops sped through vast territory famed for impassable roads and impenetrable jungles, pitted a disciplined David against a degenerate Goliath — the regime of President Mobutu Sese Seku — that crumbled as soon as it was pushed. Because it unraveled mainly through hostile forests far from transport and communications — and because rebel leaders prevented reporters from accompanying them — this extraordinary military feat was only sketchily described as it engulfed what was then known as Zaire last winter and spring.

Now, seven weeks after the ailing Marshal Mobutu fled into exile and the rebel leader Laurent Kabila installed his new government in Kinshasa and renamed the country, interviews with a broad range of rebel fighters, their enemies in Marshal Mobutu's army, international aid workers and Congolese civilians who witnessed the fighting have provided a clearer picture.

Their accounts show that the fight against Marshal Mobutu was bloodier than previously reported. In the first key weeks, more than 9,000 people — mostly civilians — are believed to have died in battles in the east of the country from Uvira to Goma, according to Congolese and United Nations officials who supervised the burial of the dead. Thousands more have died since, many of them Hutu refugees from neighboring Rwanda gunned down by rebel troops, some of them also Rwandan, under Mr. Kabila's nominal command.

The accounts also indicate that from the outset the rebels targeted the Hutu refugees, who fled Rwanda in 1994 after their leaders launched genocidal attacks against the Tutsi there. An estimated 500,000 Tutsi, an ethnic group spread across several central African countries, died in the Rwandan bloodbath. But the

killing ended with a victory by Rwandan Tutsi, who gained power in Kigali, the Rwandan capital — along with a thirst for revenge.

Rwanda, Uganda and Burundi backed the war in Congo to avenge the 1994 genocide and to ensure that it does not happen again, rebel commanders said. Angola, Congo's western neighbor, later sent troops as well. Its political and military participation helped transform the war from a limited, border-clearing operation to a campaign to

From the outset, the rebels targeted the Hutu refugees who had fled Rwanda in 1994.

overthrow Marshal Mobutu's government in Kinshasa.

Western diplomats and UN officials are split on whether rebel troops actually received orders to massacre the Rwandan Hutu in Congo. But a number of sources said that one of the main aims of the rebel offensive at the beginning was to force the Hutu refugees from the camps they had occupied for the previous two years near the Rwandan border.

Also, the systematic way the killings happened — in Mbandaka, in western Congo, near Kisangani in its center, and around Goma and Bukavu in the east — have led UN investigators to conclude that the tragedy that befell thousands of Hutu refugees was no accident.

One Rwandan Army colonel, interviewed in Goma, said his men came into this country for two reasons: to take revenge against the Hutu and to ensure the security of Rwanda, which they saw as being threatened by the Hutu militants still in the refugee camps. A senior Tutsi official in Congo's Interior Ministry, speaking in Kinshasa, said that Rwandan troops and their Congolese Tutsi allies were given a free hand to go after the Hutu refugees so long as they also contributed to toppling Marshal Mobutu.

Rebel officers who opposed this policy were done away with, sources said. One officer, Andre Kisase Ngandu, a senior commander, was gunned down by Rwandan Tutsi troops near Goma on Jan. 6, a senior non-Tutsi rebel officer and other sources said.

Mr. Kabila did not participate in

much of the planning or execution of the fight against Marshal Mobutu, Western diplomats said, and it is still unclear who masterminded the rebel victory. The Congolese government has identified a Congolese, General Nindaga Masasu, as top commander of Mr. Kabila's troops.

But African and Western military officers in Congo said that another officer directed the campaign and has told Western military experts that he was the chief of Mr. Kabila's army. He is James Kabari, described as a Tutsi of uncertain nationality who speaks broken English and fluent Swahili, two languages used in Uganda, and who knows neither French nor Lingala, the main tongues used in Congo.

The pretext for the initial uprising here was an order issued Oct. 7 by the Mobutu government giving Tutsi 72 hours to leave the country. In reality, the revolt had broken out three days before.

On Oct. 4, rebel troops who had crossed the Ruzizi River from Rwanda struck a hospital and a Zairian Army base near Lema, a village on the Ruzizi plain between Lake Kivu and Lake Tanganyika. Within hours, the lieutenant colonel commanding the base was killed and government soldiers fled south toward Uvira.

The assault on Lema followed a formula that proved successful throughout the later fighting. The rebels attacked from several directions simultaneously, confusing Marshal Mobutu's troops but leaving them an escape route. They infiltrated their men inside the village before they struck. They kicked off the assault by dropping a mortar shell into the middle of the army base. And they used walkie-talkies to coordinate their actions.

The government troops fled south to Uvira, which fell on Oct. 24. The rebel troops treated local residents well, but Hutu refugees were separated from the returning crowd, and many of them were killed, witnesses said.

On Nov. 1, Mr. Kabila, a small-time Marxist revolutionary who had enriched himself selling Zairian gold, emerged in Uvira as the representative of an organization named the Alliance of Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Congo-Zaire. At first Mr. Kabila was identified as the spokesman. Soon Mr. Kabila began calling himself the leader. Rebel commanders explained that Mr. Kabila, 56, who had been fighting

against Marshal Mobutu since 1963, was a convenient choice. He had good relations with Rwanda, Uganda and an important rebel faction, the Banyamulenge of South Kivu Province, a group of Tutsi who constituted some of the rebels' most successful forces. But he himself was a Luba, not a Tutsi, and thus more palatable to Congo's 400 other tribes.

From the outset, the main rebel targets in this southern campaign were UN-protected refugee camps. The rebels mauled camps along the road from Uvira to Bukavu, 100 miles (160 kilometers) up the road on the south shore of Lake Kivu; they attacked the Inera and Kashucha camps north of Bukavu, where the UN had allowed the radical Hutu leadership to house its government in exile since 1994. More than 120,000 people had lived there.

On the day Uvira fell, about 700 rebel troops opened another front, sneaking into Zaire about 25 miles north of Goma, on the north shore of Lake Kivu.

They struck first at the Kibumba refugee camp, which housed 200,000 Hutu.

Marshal Mobutu's Presidential Guard, backed by Hutu militiamen, defended the camp and suffered heavy casualties, according to Mike Deppner, a Canadian doctor who works for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees. When Dr. Deppner returned to the camp in November, he said, he found dozens of bodies stuffed in outdoor latrines and 40 lying in the camp's hospital with intravenous tubes still in their arms.

Most of Kibumba's 200,000 refugees fled toward Goma, finding shelter next to another massive camp, Mugunga, west of Goma. In all, more than 500,000 refugees huddled near the lakeside town. Goma fell Nov. 1.

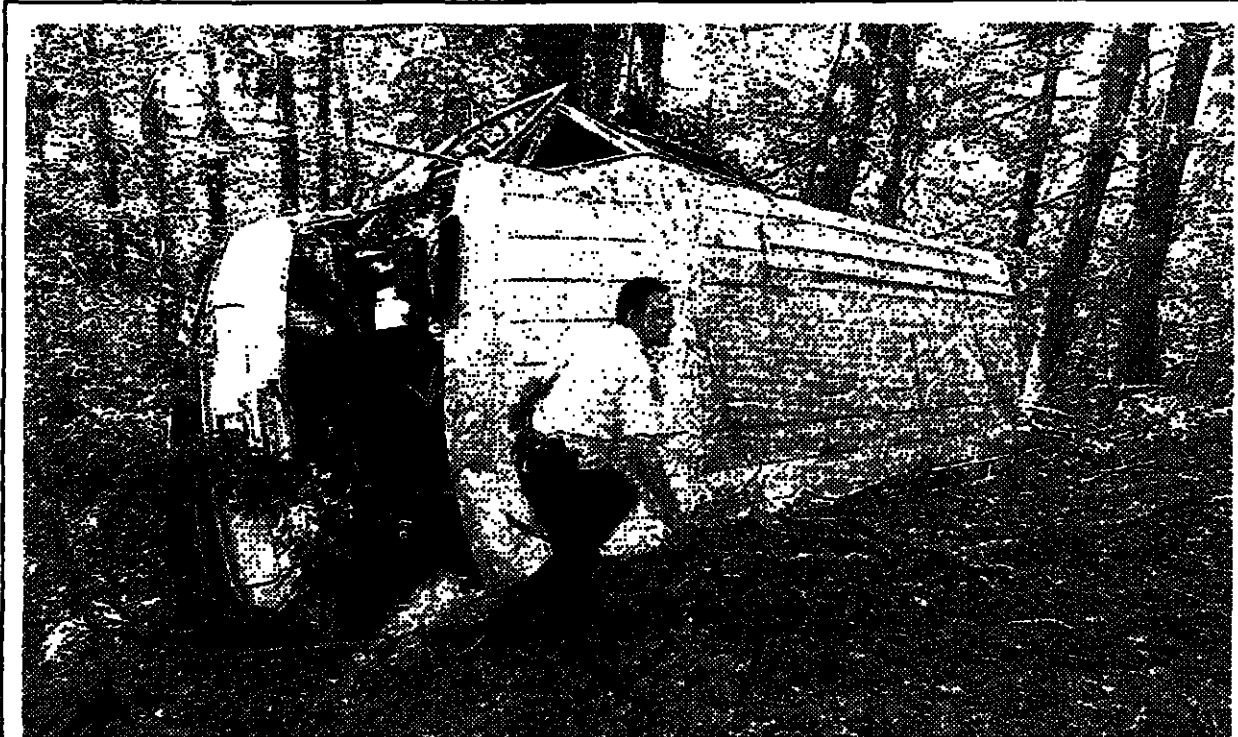
Attacked from the north, from the east out of Rwanda and from the lake, Marshal Mobutu's defenses collapsed quickly. At least 6,800 bodies later were buried near the town, said Craig Sanders, a senior UN aid official there.

In November, talk was rife in Western capitals of dispatching an international force to save the Hutu refugees — which could have grounded the revolt.

On Nov. 15, Mr. Kabari's forces solved that problem. They attacked the Mugunga camp from the west, giving the refugees one escape route — east, back home to Rwanda. That assault began one of the largest spontaneous repatriations in recent history. But, just as significantly for the rebels, it also ended any talk of an international force. From Nov. 15 to 19, about 600,000 Rwandan Hutu refugees flooded home.

Still, tens of thousands of other Hutu refugees were driven deeper into the jungle. The rebels pursued them, killing as they went. Meanwhile, the government's defenses were collapsing.

By the end of April, two-thirds of the country was in rebel hands. At 2 A.M. on May 17, rebel patrols entered the capital, trudging into Kinshasa along its rusting railroad tracks.



BRITISH TEENAGERS DIE IN FRENCH BUS CRASH — A policeman checking the wreckage after a busload of British schoolchildren plunged into a ravine near the French Alps town of Moutiers, killing two students from the Manchester area and injuring 20 passengers. The accident's cause was unknown.

'Little England' in the Caribbean Weighs Divorce

By Larry Rohter
New York Times Service

BRIDGETOWN, Barbados — This is a place so enamored of British values and institutions that people on other Caribbean islands refer to it as "Little England."

Yet a government-appointed constitutional revision commission here is considering whether to discard Queen Elizabeth II as head of state, declare Barbados a republic and eliminate formal ties to the British legal system.

All across the English-speaking Caribbean, from Jamaica to Grenada, similar proposals are being advanced. Complaints vary from island to island, but one issue remains constant: popular dissatisfaction with the Privy Council, an executive body whose members are appointed by the queen and which nearly all the British colonies in the Caribbean retained as their supreme tribunal after they became independent.

In 1993, the Privy Council ruled that prisoners convicted of capital crimes and not executed within five years have suffered "inhuman or degrading punishment" and should have their death sentences commuted.

But ever since, the number of criminals on death row in Commonwealth countries in the Caribbean has been growing, as has the number of death sentences that have had to be commuted.

Growing, too, is the ire of a population that is frightened by rising crime and believes strongly in law and order. "If you murder a man willfully and wantonly, you should be hanged for it, as Scripture mandates," said Hatherly Cumberbatch, a construction foreman here. "We must have justice, and if the only way to get it is to let go of Queen Elizabeth and the Privy Council, then so let it be."

In some countries, local governments have responded to public pressure by speeding up appeals procedures to beat the five-year deadline. But that ap-

proach disturbs international human rights organizations and many lawyers in a region that regards the rule of law as one of the most cherished legacies of three centuries of British colonial administration.

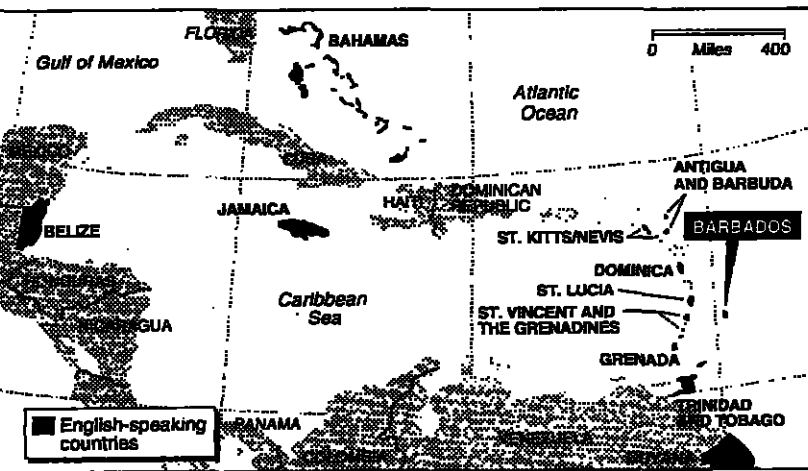
"The whole situation is of huge concern and very alarming," says Piers Bannister, a Caribbean specialist at Amnesty International, said in a telephone interview from London.

"We're seeing the English-speaking Caribbean learning from the United States," he said. "It seems like a rush to execute, rather than placing a priority on

proach disturbs international human rights organizations and many lawyers in a region that regards the rule of law as one of the most cherished legacies of three centuries of British colonial administration.

Kenneth John, a prominent lawyer in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, said defense lawyers "have been exploiting to the hilt all of the opportunities to get it past five years, and that is what has annoyed society as a whole."

The Caribbean has experienced a startling rise in crime in recent years,



applying the death penalty in an appropriate and judicial manner."

Most of the dozen English-speaking nations of the Caribbean are constitutional monarchies, in which an appointed governor-general represents the British Crown. As independent members of the Commonwealth, they have their own elected governments, foreign policies and armies or police but retain certain trade preferences and institutional links with Britain.

The 1993 edict did not formally outlaw capital punishment, and nine men were hanged in five Caribbean countries

much of it in the form of robberies, burglaries and killings related to drug use or trafficking. In Jamaica, for instance, more than 920 people were killed last year — a figure only slightly less than that of New York City, whose population is nearly three times as large.

"Amnesty International is extremely sympathetic to the situation of countries like Jamaica, where the murder rate is at an all-time high," said Mr. Bannister. "But we believe that capital punishment distracts from the real issue, which is the appalling level of violence in that society."

In Jamaica, more than 60 convicted felons are now on death row, according to statistics compiled by Amnesty International, and complaints about the cost of housing them are growing.

In the Bahamas, with a population of 260,000, 36 people are waiting to hang, the group calculates, while in Guyana, which has abandoned the Privy Council but continues to use British law as precedent, the figure is at least 16 among a population of slightly less than 900,000.

But the Caribbean country with the largest number of prisoners facing death sentences is Trinidad and Tobago, where 1.25 million people live and, according to Amnesty International, more than 116 people are on death row. Those condemned include a prominent drug dealer and his gunman, who killed a man who owed them money, and, to leave no witnesses, murdered the rest of his household.

"If there ever was a case where you can justify the death penalty, it is this one," said a diplomat in Port of Spain. "If the Privy Council ruling lets them off, there is going to be hell to pay."

In Barbados, abolishing the link to the Privy Council has been one of the most popular of the ideas presented to a constitutional review commission in public hearings that began late last year. The country already has restored the use of a whip with knotted cords to punish criminals and widened grounds for corporal punishment in schools.

"Capital punishment is always emotional, and there is no doubt of the strong feelings on the issue here," said Henry deB. Forde, a member of Parliament who heads the commission that is due to give its recommendations to Prime Minister Owen Arthur by October.

But he said doing away with the Privy Council also appeals to nationalistic sentiment.

"You can't linger at the steps of the Colonial Office in London forever. I don't know why we continue to go somewhere else, cap in hand, for our ultimate justice."

Islamic Law Cited In Trial of Britons

RIYADH — A Saudi court ruled Monday that the brother of a slain Australian nurse could decide, under Islamic law, whether to spare the lives of two British nurses on trial for the killing if they are convicted.

Anwar Bakhrulji, the defense attorney, said the court in Khobar recognized that Frank Gilford was speaking on behalf of the family of his sister, Yvonne. The only other surviving relative is their mother, Muriel, 85, who suffers from Alzheimer's disease. Mr. Gilford has declined offers to meet the families of the Britons and said he would not consider the option of a reconciliation before the court gives its verdict.

Yvonne Gilford, 55, was found dead on Dec. 11 in a hospital dormitory in Dhahran. She had been stabbed 13 times, battered and suffocated, Lucille McLaughlin, 31, and Deborah Parry, 41, have retracted confessions that they said were extracted under duress and by promises of plane tickets out of Saudi Arabia.

The Saudi authorities have said that it could be two years before any death sentence is carried out, following numerous appeals and the approval of the Saudi monarch.

46 Life Terms Given To Hamas Plotter

BET EL, Israeli-Occupied West Bank — An Israeli military court on Monday handed down 46 life sentences to a Palestinian Islamic militant convicted of planning three suicide bombings in Israel last year, court sources said. Hassan Salameh, a member of the Islamic Resistance Movement, Hamas, was convicted June 30 of planning the attacks in February and March last year that left 46 people dead and helped derail the

BRIEFLY

Middle East peace process. Military prosecutors sought the life terms, as only people convicted of Nazi war crimes can face the death penalty in Israel. One judge had nevertheless argued in favor of capital punishment; but he was overruled by his colleagues, said the sources.

"We cannot ignore the fact that his acts came after peace had arrived in our region," said Colonel Ilan Katz, one of the judges, announcing the sentence. Colonel Katz said the life sentences were justified to protect the population of Israel, adding that a "new peak" of violence had been reached with the suicide bombings.

Hamas said the three attacks, including two against buses in Jerusalem, were in retaliation for the assassination of one of its leaders in the Gaza Strip early last year. (APF)

25 Die in Colombia In Downed Copter

BOGOTA — Colombian leftist rebels shot down a helicopter carrying 24 soldiers and five civilian crew members to the site of an oil pipeline attack. Only four soldiers survived the crash, the army said.

The Russian-made Mi-17 helicopter apparently caught fire in the air Sunday and exploded when it hit the ground near Saravena, 220 miles northeast of Bogota, the army said. The civilian crew members were employed by Helicol, the company that rented the helicopter to the army, the Defense Ministry said.

Four soldiers survived the crash, three of them with injuries, an army spokesman at a military base in Arauca, near the crash site, said Monday on condition of anonymity.

The National Liberation Army, the nation's second-largest rebel group, is believed to be responsible for the attack. The group has been fighting the government for more than 30 years. (APF)

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EDITORIALS/OPINION

Herald INTERNATIONAL Tribune

PUBLISHED WITH THE NEW YORK TIMES AND THE WASHINGTON POST

A Western Destiny

It is a chilly and exclusive world that the opponents of NATO expansion would build in Europe. A whole row of emerging or re-emerging democracies of a European tradition aspire to the manifest psychological, political and economic benefits of membership in a pinch-military alliance. The opponents would have these candidates forgo the confidence that membership would surely convey to their democratic and free-market elements. The old members would have to forgo the extra stability that NATO enlargement could lead to a region whose 20th-century history surely makes the case for a strong alliance.

But, say the opponents, Russia will be provoked, its nationalists stirred and its own democratic prospects perhaps checked. It is a serious consideration, not to be glibly dismissed. But NATO has taken this into fair account by its deep consultations with Moscow, its measured pace and manner of enlargement, its practical respect for Russia's concern at seeing a formerly hostile alliance move closer to its border, its institutionalization of a place for Russia in alliance structures and its steps in other arenas to satisfy Moscow's post-Cold War cravings for a due place in the international sun.

In fact, NATO has taken its respect

for Russian professions of concern up to the point of raising questions among some Americans about whether NATO is being "diluted." The administration makes a good case that it is not, but the question will take much actual experience to resolve.

A further question goes to the extra costs and risks the United States is assuming as NATO adds, first, three new members and later more. It is only prudent to anticipate endless and wearying arguments over burden sharing. It is also necessary to be alert to the military contingencies an expanded alliance might face if over time the current good feeling in Europe sours. But the hashing out of practical details of budget and policy should not be allowed to become vicarious and symbolic warfare against the idea of NATO expansion itself.

The first three chosen to join this club of democracies — Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic — are to be invited into NATO at its Madrid summit meeting. The United States joined the rescue of Central Europe from two great wars and two tyrannies in this century. Only at great cost could it now deny the rescued the infusions of confidence and support that will help them to fulfill a Western destiny.

—THE WASHINGTON POST

Support Yilmaz

The United States depends on Turkey as a vital military and political ally in southeastern Europe, Central Asia and the Middle East. That makes it welcome news that Turkey's troubled politics have now taken an encouraging turn. President Süleyman Demirel last week named Mesut Yilmaz, a firm secularist and democrat, to succeed the Islamic leader, Necmettin Erbakan, as prime minister. Mr. Yilmaz has assembled a coherent parliamentary majority, a requirement for effective government his recent predecessors have lacked.

It would be naive to gloss over the formidable challenges awaiting the new prime minister, including assertive generals, a brutal war against Kurdish separatists and growing voter disenchantment with the scandal-stained political establishment. But under Mr. Yilmaz, the country's least tainted secular political leader, Turkey will have a chance to strengthen its democratic institutions and repair its damaged international prestige.

Turkey has been in political crisis since its last election, in December 1995, left no party with a clear majority. Mr. Erbakan's Islamic-oriented Welfare Party got the most votes and

eventually formed a coalition government. During his one year in office, Mr. Erbakan upset relations with Washington by courting Iran and Libya. But at home, he respected the rules of democracy and upheld secularism as Americans understand it.

What cost him his job was his bid to bend the strict anti-religious rules formulated decades ago by modern Turkey's founder, Mustafa Kemal Atatürk. Turkey's military leaders responded with threats to remove the government by force.

After three military coups in the last four decades, Turkish political leaders must take such threats seriously. The army's excessive influence has also thwarted attempts to seek nonmilitary solutions to the Kurdish unrest and to resolve the long confrontation with Greece over Cyprus.

No Turkish politician has dared to challenge the generals over these policies, which have cost Turkey dearly at home and abroad. But if Mr. Yilmaz hopes to rally Turkey's alienated electorate and repair relations with Western Europe, he must try, and America should support him.

—THE NEW YORK TIMES

Humanitarian Dilemma

In a sense, the years of the Cold War were the halcyon days of humanitarian aid. Most conflicts were fought over ideology by parties whose leaders worried about world public opinion and had read the Geneva Conventions. The people who died tended to be combatants.

Relief agencies had limited missions of caring for the wounded and refugees, and could do their work largely unmolested. The fall of communism has decentralized war. Nations once held together by superpowers are breaking up. Since superpowers no longer see an interest in military or political intervention in far-off conflicts, relief efforts by UN agencies or private groups now fill the vacuum.

The new warriors in Bosnia, Liberia and Rwanda are warlords or nationalist demagogues, indifferent to outside pressures, who seek personal profit or territory for their ethnic group. An aid group may now find itself dealing with five different clans vying for control of a city, or discover that the safe passage promised by a commander means nothing to an armed 12-year-old manning a checkpoint.

Worldwide, 90 percent of war casualties now are civilians. In the last year, at least 19 relief workers have been murdered in Chechnya and Africa. Many agencies are forced to stay out of zones where the need is great.

Even more disturbing to humanitarian officials is whether their presence in some conflicts relieves immediate suffering while supporting the political forces that caused the crisis.

Relief is often manipulated by politicians and military leaders who know that if they starve people, aid will come. Aid almost always benefits

those already in charge. To work in some areas, aid groups may have to accept some manipulation or control to gain access to victims.

In Liberia, warlords have beenately starved regions to attract food relief, which comes with trucks and other equipment the warlords steal. Rwandan Hutu who led the 1994 genocide used refugee camps in Zaire as bases for military raids into Rwanda. The refugees drew food aid, which was taken for the soldiers and sold to buy arms.

These hazards are forcing humanitarian agencies to redesign their practices. While Oxfam, which specializes in providing clean water, would have rushed into North Korea in the past, now its leaders are being cautious, aware that they may not be able to control how their aid is used. The International Rescue Committee pulled out of the Rwandan camps in Zaire after eight months rather than see its aid support genocidal groups.

Humanitarian groups must constantly check whether their projects are doing more harm than good. When efforts reach that point, the groups need to be prepared to pull out, publicly criticize the abuses and call for a political solution. The United Nations, which is one of the few places still inclined to broker the deals that may be necessary to end a crisis or even send troops, is also struggling to reorganize its humanitarian efforts. As it does so, it should remember not to mix human rights and humanitarian agencies. The compromises necessary for aid can get in the way of uncovering abuses and taking action against offenders. Both are necessary to end suffering in the messy new wars.

—THE NEW YORK TIMES

Bringing New Democracies Into the NATO Fold

By Madeleine Albright

The writer is the U.S. secretary of state.

WASHINGTON — When President Bill Clinton took office, the future of NATO and the strength of America's partnership with Europe were being questioned. The war in Bosnia was at its height. Russian democracy was under strain. Virtually everyone agreed on the need to bring the new democracies of Central Europe into our trans-Atlantic community, but we had agreed on no mechanism to actually do it.

This week, President Clinton attends a NATO summit meeting in Madrid with these questions resolved. NATO has ended the carnage in Bosnia. It has launched a relationship with a Russia that has itself renewed its commitment to democracy and reform. And in Madrid, NATO's leaders invite the first group of Europe's new democracies to join our alliance. The United States believes this group should consist of the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland.

NATO enlargement is not a step we take lightly. It involves the most solemn commitments that we can make to another country. It will not happen without the advice and consent of the U.S. Senate. We have a responsibility to explain exactly why our policy serves American interests.

The first reason is that enlargement will make NATO stronger and more cohesive. Our future allies share our most fundamental values and aspirations for Europe and the world. Many shared risks with our soldiers in the Gulf. Without hesitation, each provided troops to NATO in Bosnia, and Hungary provided the bases that allowed our troops to deploy safely.

These nations will bear the cost of defending freedom because they know the price of losing freedom. They are ready, willing and able to contribute to our common agenda for security, from the fight against terrorism and weapons proliferation to the quest for stability in Europe and beyond — and we should be ready to welcome them.

The second reason is that enlargement lessens the chance American soldiers will ever again have to fight in Europe.

Twice in the first half of this century, we Americans sent our troops across the Atlantic to fight and sacrifice in defense of Europe's freedom. NATO was created to unify and bolster the forces of freedom and thereby make a third war less likely. Throughout the Cold War, NATO gave evidence that we were prepared to fight if necessary; by so doing, the alliance made it unnecessary to fight. What NATO did then for Europe's west it can do now for Europe's east, where this century's two world wars and the Cold War began.

The third reason is that NATO enlargement will help us defend Europe's gains toward democracy, peace and integration. Just the prospect of enlargement has given Central and Eastern Europe greater stability than seen in this century. As nations align themselves with NATO, old disputes between countries like Poland and Ukraine, Hungary and Romania, Germany and the Czech Republic are melting away. Democratic reforms are advancing. Country after country has made sure soldiers take orders from civilians. They are fixing exactly the problems that could have led to future Bosnias.

The final reason for enlargement is to right the wrongs of the past. Three years ago, we decided that if NATO was no longer a Cold War institution aimed at Russia, then it would no longer make sense to limit NATO to its Cold War membership. We recognized that if we were creating NATO today, we would not even consider making the old Iron Curtain its permanent eastern frontier. We would not say to any new democracy that having been subjugated in the past, it must be excluded in the future.

Yet that would be the unconscionable result if NATO decided to stand still — and a prospect no critic of enlargement has been able to justify.

As the Senate takes up these issues, legitimate new questions will be raised.

Some will wonder why we are enlarging NATO when we face no immediate military threat. Our answer is that NATO is not a Wild West posse that we trot out only when danger appears. It is a permanent presence designed to prevent a threat from even rising and to promote common endeavors, such as the mission in Bosnia.

Others will worry that enlargement might derail Russia's advance toward democracy and integration. In fact, reformist leaders in Russia are ascendant, not because of anything NATO is or is not doing, but because they are addressing the domestic issues the Russian people care about most. What's more, Presidents Bill Clinton and Boris Yeltsin have agreed to cut our nuclear arsenals even further. Russia was our full partner at the Summit of the Eight in Denver last month. Russia and NATO have signed the Founding Act of a partnership that will bring Russia closer to the West than at any time in its history. All this happened even as NATO enlargement became irreversible.

Finally, some will ask why we

settled on the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland, and not others, as the first new members from Central Europe. The answer is that these countries have cleared the highest hurdles of reform. They have resolved every outstanding border and minority dispute. They are ready to meet the military responsibilities of NATO membership.

We favor inviting a small group of countries now because we want the first round of enlargement to be a solid success. And we want to make certain the first round will not be the last.

What we are saying to the new European democracies that will not be invited to join in Madrid is not "no," but "not yet." We support their aspirations. And while we insist on high standards for new members today, we will also have a process that encourages others to meet those standards tomorrow. This is the message the president will bring when he visits Romania after the summit meeting, and that I will carry when I visit Slovenia, Lithuania and Russia.

This message is NATO policy. It also reflects President Clinton's personal commitment, and mine, to build a Europe in which every nation is free and every free nation is our partner.

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Why Romania Should Be Admitted Now

ROMANIA should be among the new NATO member states chosen at the Madrid summit meeting.

As demonstrated over the past few years, the Continent's stability requires crisis management in the Balkans — and Romania offers significant capabilities in influencing political and military developments in the region.

The Bosnian conflict highlighted the importance of controlling the Danube. Without the ability to regulate traffic on the river, it would have been impossible to blockade Serbia. The international community's base for policing river traffic was in Romania.

Romania is also a power on the Black Sea, the great inland ocean whose importance is bound to grow sharply as it becomes the route enabling oil from Azerbaijan and Kazakhstan to reach international markets.

For the moment, Turkey alone bears responsibility for trying to stabilize the area. A second NATO member state bordering the Black Sea could be the West's best tool to help ensure stability in this crucial region.

—Jacques Walch, an analyst at the Foundation for Defense Studies in Paris, commenting for the International Herald Tribune.

Instead of Nagging the Japanese, U.S. Should Look at Europe

By Brendan Brown

LONDON — The contrast is stark between Washington's continual intervention in Japanese economic policy and its spectator role with respect to the emerging European monetary and economic union.

Yet another G-7 summit has come and gone at which U.S. officials put pressure on Japan to boost economic demand and accelerate deregulation. Meanwhile, the leaders of France, Italy and Germany have been able to relax in the sunshine, despite the fact that their economies, when aggregated together into "core Europe," should be a choice target of concern for U.S. negotiators.

Some simple economic arithmetic evidently is not being done at the U.S. Treasury Department. First, take trade in goods and services. Japan is now widely expected to run a surplus this year of \$50 billion, equivalent to barely one percent of gross domestic product. Core Europe (including Germany, France, Italy, Holland, Belgium-Luxembourg, Switzerland and Austria), double the economic size of Japan, is forecast to have a similarly defined surplus of \$200 billion (some 2.25 percent of GDP).

Second, take deficiency of domestic demand. The International Monetary Fund, in its most recent report on the world economy, estimates that both the Japanese and core European econ-

omies are operating at a level of output some 3 percent below productive potential. Third, consider labor market performance. Standardized data published by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development show unemployment in core Europe at around 10.5 percent of the labor force, compared to 3.25 percent in Japan. Some commentators suggest the true unemployment rate in Japan could be double that, but even so that is still far short of the core European level. And whereas economic recovery in core Europe since 1993 has been virtually jobless, in Japan employment is rising in a typical fashion in relation to the business cycle.

So why is Japan the monopoly recipient of Washington's exhortations for programs of deregulation and macroeconomic stimulus? Cynics would cite the importance of Detroit in U.S. politics. But that is surely too simplistic at a time of euphoria about U.S. economic prospects and record low unemployment. Yes, America in 1997 might run a deficit in merchandise trade with Japan of over \$60 billion, of which one-half is automobiles. But no serious economist, including Deputy Treasury Secretary Lawrence Summers, would argue that bilateral trade balances are a sensible target for

economic policy.

Anecdotal evidence suggests that the principal factor behind Washington's passivity with respect to core European economic policy is that core Europe does not feature yet on U.S. policymakers' maps. U.S. officials treat core Europe still as separate nation-states, no one of which is likely as large or imposing as Japan. Even Germany, the largest of the European Union economies, does not flash alarm signals. The huge surplus in goods and services trade of core Europe is concentrated in its smallest members (Holland, Switzerland and Belgium-Luxembourg) and at its edge (Italy) rather than at its center.

No doubt once monetary union, or EMU, becomes a reality, the U.S. Treasury will focus at last on core Europe as an entity. Providing the EU Statistics Office in Luxembourg and the European Monetary Institute in Frankfurt get their act together, economic data for the new monetary area as a whole should be available at the end of 1998. But what could bring an earlier change toward activism in Washington's approach to macroeconomic policy in core Europe? An unlikely but possible trigger is Tokyo. Japanese officials, in response to U.S.

pressure for policy change, could draw Washington's attention to some facts of international economic arithmetic.

France is a more likely catalyst to Washington's entering the policy debate in core Europe, notwithstanding the irritation expressed in the French press (and by Prime Minister Lionel Jospin) at U.S. "arrogance." The new Socialist government in Paris has been pressing for growth and employment to be priority aims of EMU-wide economic policy and for a new institution, the European Economic Council, to balance the power of the European Central Bank. Mr. Jospin would presumably welcome U.S. officials, ahead of the September G-7 meeting of finance ministers and central bankers, expressing concern about deflationary risks in the process of EMU.

Washington, in pressing for deflation in core Europe, would have to take aim, at least indirectly, at the still mighty Bundesbank, which is dominant in setting monetary policy throughout the area. U.S. negotiators would be following the lead of the Bank for International Settlements, which in its annual report called for countries proceeding with fiscal deflation from a situation of no inflation to take out monetary insurance against deflation. The Bundes-

bank in its two most recent reports has declared that inflation, when properly measured, is now zero in Germany. Further, the Bundesbank sees no inflation

Europe is still treated as a collection of nation-states, no one of which is as large or as economically troublesome as Japan.

threat from recent overshoots in its money supply target. The scenario of monetary reflation in Europe this fall is rising in probability. A timely turn in Washington's economic diplomacy toward Europe would reduce the risk of EMU becoming a time bomb of deflation. U.S. officials now resting after long hard sessions in Tokyo could find fertile ground for their efforts during the next few months in Paris, Bonn and Frankfurt.

The writer, director and head of research at Tokyo-Mitsubishi International in London, contributed this comment to the International Herald Tribune.

China and Hong Kong in the Ring: No Simple Boxing Match

By Thomas L. Friedman

HONG KONG — For many Americans, the handover of Hong Kong is just the latest installment in the long-running China-U.S. morality play — "The Butchers of Beijing vs. the People."

But Hong Kongers look at events here with much more mixed emotion. For them, it's not communism versus democracy, but nationalism versus the rule of law. That is, there is real ethnic pride here in the return of Chinese sovereignty, after 156 years of British colonialism.

But there is also real fear that what Hong Kongers appreciated most about Britain's colonialism — the rule of law — will vanish along with it. As one Hong Kong businessman remarked to me on handover day: "I feel torn — like I just watched my mother-in-law drive out of town in my new Mercedes. I'm glad she's gone, but what about my car?"

Well, what about that car? Since the reversion, there have been some intriguing stories in the wind here. The first is how relaxed this place is. The democracy activists wasted no time defying a police ban on unlicensed demonstrations and the police responded that they were not going to waste taxpayer money prosecuting them. End of story. My favorite democracy demonstrators were those selling miniature plaster replicas of the "Goddess of Democracy" — the students of Tiananmen Square had erected. They went for \$100 a copy, and they were "Made in China." Where else? The Chinese Army troops

that the U.S. television networks focused on so relentlessly planted China's sovereignty here and then disappeared into their barracks. China's Communist Party is still banned in Hong Kong, and Beijing is hesitating to make it legal, because if it becomes a legal party in Hong

How long before elites in Shanghai or Tianjin say they can't compete with Hong Kong unless they have what Hong Kong has?

Kong it will have to run in Hong Kong's next legislative elections, and if it runs it will get creamed by the democratic parties. TUNG Chee-hwa, China's handpicked chief here, last week promised that elections for a new legislature would be held by mid-1998. The hottest-selling T-shirt at Hong Kong's Shanghai Tang department store is emblazoned: "Most Flavoured Nation."

What might this be telling us? The relationship between China and Britain over Hong Kong was like a bad marriage: Everything one did the other disparaged. Any democratization by Britain, China treated as a stick in the eye. Any assertion of sovereignty by China, Britain

treated as potentially the next Tiananmen. But now that China has Hong Kong back, China, and Mr. Tung, can afford to be more relaxed, because leniency no longer constitutes kowtow to Britain. Rather, it's something they do in the interest of stability in Hong Kong, which is now also their interest.

The second straw in the wind is the speech China's president, Jiang Zemin, gave on handover day. Christine Loh, one of the leading pro-democracy activists in the recently disbanded Hong Kong legislature, insisted on reading aloud to me passages from that speech: "Hong Kong residents will enjoy their rights and freedoms in accordance with law and will all be equal before the law. ... A gradually improved democratic system suited to Hong Kong's reality is an important guarantee for its social and political stability. Hong Kong will develop democracy gradually with the ultimate aim of electing the chief executive and the Legislative Council by universal suffrage. Hong Kong's success is attributable to ... its well-developed legal system and highly efficient civil service."

What's new is that the Chinese president wasn't speaking about some British colony. He was speaking about the importance of rights, legality and democracy for what is now part of China. How long before elites in Shanghai or Tianjin come to Mr. Jiang and say that they can't compete economically with

Hong Kong unless they have what he has vowed to preserve in Hong Kong — civil society, rule of law and a market economy free of corruption?

The point is that — post-handover — there are still real politics in Hong Kong. And they will add to the real politics already going on inside China. How much and for how long remains to be seen. But if you only look at China through the

simplistic lens of "Butchers of Beijing," you'll miss those politics and their possibilities. The people who understand that best are the democrats here. Until China proves otherwise, argued Ms. Loh, "The best thing America can do is not to look at Hong Kong as a problem, but as an opportunity — something that might actually add value to the U.S.-China relationship."

The New York Times.

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1897: Eastern Tension

VIENNA — The murder of the Hungarian woman Anna Simon by an aide-de-camp of Prince Ferdinand of Bulgaria threatens to lead to serious complications between Bulgaria and Hungary. The bitterness of feeling between the two countries has become so great that the Bulgarian Government has cancelled an order for 100,000 rifles given to an Austrian firm and has transferred the order to Russia.

1922: Shelley's Tomb

PARIS — There can be few more moving experiences than that of having entered at twilight the Strangers' Cemetery, near the Cestian pyramid and the Osetian gate at Rome, and standing before the tomb of Shelley to have read the inscription, a quotation from the "Tempest": "Nothing in him that doth fade/But doth suffer a sea

change/Into something rich and strange." To-day [July 8], 100 years ago, Percy Bysshe Shelley, one of the most remarkable of modern poets, was drowned off the Italian coast. The ashes of his body were consigned to the earth at this spot, which he had once called the "most beautiful and solemn cemetery."

1947: Flying Saucers

NEW YORK — The mystery of the flying disks, whirling saucerlike objects skimming through the air at tremendous speeds, remained unsolved, but reports poured in from all sections of the United States and eastern Canada that the phenomenon was observed again. The mystery objects have been seen in thirty-nine states. The disks were first reported to have been seen June 25 by Kenneth Arnold, a pilot, of Boise, Idaho, while flying over the Cascade Mountains.

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Editor for Asia: Michael Richardson, 5 Convent Road, Singapore 0511. Tel: (65) 472-7708. Fax: 475-275-2344
Mgr. for Asia, Prof. D. K. Ramesh, 50 Gloucester Rd., Hong Kong. Tel: 852-3922-1188. Fax: 852-3922-1190
Gen. Mgr. Germany: T. Schiller, Friedrichstr. 15, D-10117 Frankfurt/M. Tel: +49 69 971250-0. Fax: +49 69 971250-20
Pres. U.S.: Michael Conroy, 850 Third Ave., New York, N.Y. 10022. Tel: (212) 755-3800. Fax: (212) 755-3798
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OPINION/LETTERS

Like Aeroflot, Mir Shows Russians' Ingenuity

By Fred Hiatt

WASHINGTON — There was something so evocative about conditions on the stricken Mir — the darkness, the cramped quarters, the bad air, the accumulating human waste. Then they announced the likely cause of the collision that led to these problems — an overloaded cargo ship — and it clicked. Of course. Just like Aeroflot.

How many times, since the Soviet Union's collapse, have we read of a crash in remote Siberia of an Ilyushin-76 or a Yak-42?

Though sometimes these planes just ran out of fuel — and once the pilot handed the controls to his teenage son — usually the cause was the same: overloading. Passengers standing in the aisle, passengers in the toilets, boxes stacked up in the cockpit, cargo under everyone's feet — just too many kilograms for the bird to carry.

Now Aeroflot is said to be cleaning up its act, and Mir's latest mishap is sparking calls in Congress for a re-evaluation of the U.S.-Russian partnership in space. Well, it's hard to argue with either development, but piling on the Russian space program during its time of trouble is almost too easy. On the contrary: This is a moment to recall the ingenuity and human spirit that keep Mir in orbit.

It is true, of course, that experienced travelers, upon hearing of the latest Russian plane crash, might dwell on the darker side of human nature, not on its indomitable spirit. They might speculate how many bribes those extra passengers had paid to get on board. After all, if you've dealt with Russian airport clerks, you know they could keep you off the plane even if you have a ticket, just because they



That same resourcefulness has kept the space program going even as it has sunk from superpower's favored child to orphan of the Soviet demise. Sure, the Mir space station is in the 11th year of a planned five-year life span — so what? There's nothing that can't be fixed with glue, spit and a little imagination.

American movie audiences gasped when Tom Hanks and Mission Control had to improvise to bring Apollo 13 back from the moon. But that is what Russian cosmonauts do every day.

American visitors to Mir are surprised by how much junk seems to be floating around the station, but there is a reason for it. You never know when an old shoelace or worn screw might come in handy to adjust a solar panel or plug a leak.

So if Mir's crew loaded too much garbage and human waste on that earthbound cargo vessel, which subsequently crashed back into the Mir, knocking out much of its power — and so far, that's only a theory — it wouldn't be such a surprise.

The cosmonauts long ago stopped doing things by the book: there is no book for their evolving mission. And that habit of improvisation has provided an education for visiting American astronauts. When they go up in a future Russian-American space station, it may be cleaner and more orderly than Mir. But just as surely, circumstances will arise that not even NASA's manuals have foreseen.

Now Mir's two Russian crewmen are being asked to improvise again. Sometime this month, while the U.S. astronaut Michael Foale waits in the Soyuz escape capsule, the commander, Vasili Tsibilyev and the flight engineer, Alexander Lazutkin, who have been in orbit for nearly five months, are supposed to don space suits and attempt a risky repair job they never practiced on Earth.

If they fail, they might have to abandon Mir, or worse. If they succeed, they will be heroes, but they can expect no hero's welcome from an impoverished, preoccupied Russia.

So would I take a ride in Mir? Not likely. Nor does it necessarily make sense for Americans to keep doing so: Congress is right to insist on a thorough safety evaluation, given the recent string of accidents. But it is worth remembering that if the Americans pull out, it would be a loss not only for the Russians.

After all, it's no big deal to fly a plane when the passengers buckle their seat belts and check no more luggage than regulations permit. But to land a plane that is overweight, unbalanced, with passengers already jostling in the aisles to disembark, you have to be a pretty good pilot.

The Washington Post

A Vacation Hideaway To Scream About

By Hart Seely and Frank Cammuso

NEW YORK — Bub and Satey thank you for renting on scenic Wreckley Lake. Please note these cabin rules and regulations:

1. The locked basement is for storage only. Please stay out of this area.
2. The Vanderpools, who live on nearby Wreckley Bay, will remove your trash and recyclables, at no charge, nightly. Just leave unwanted items outside your cabin. (Note: Be sure to bring all wanted items inside.)
3. If, while hiking, you meet a group of stray dogs, remember that they generally are more afraid of you than you are of them. Simply toss aside whatever food you're carrying and move slowly away. DO NOT RUN!
4. Please show respect for the flag that flies over the Vanderpool family compound. This signifies the Republic of Vanderpool, a sovereign nation separate from the United States since 1973. Trespassers could face interrogation and incarceration.
5. No diving off the chemical barrels near Vanderpool Point.
6. For day trips, we suggest nearby Potterfield (28 miles south on Route 182), home to the Exit 47 Truck Stop, which offers a \$5.95 All-U-Can-Eat Grand Seafood Buffet, Tuesday through Friday. (Best to go before Friday.)
7. Further south is Uncle Oinker's Sausage Barn, where families can tour "the magic of meat from hoof to bun." Free samples.
8. Also, don't forget Happy Land Park, featuring Big Rickety, the world's oldest and fastest wooden roller coaster, and Ultimate Pee Wee Fighting every Friday, the winner receiving a \$50 savings bond. (If planning to enter, don't forget child's birth certificate!)
9. At night, you may have dreams about the basement, or at times feel an overwhelming compulsion to see what's down there. Please, do not go in the basement.
10. Because of the high-intensity lines from Rainbow Valley Nuclear Units I and II, radios, flashlights and other electrical equipment may turn on and off spontaneously. (No pacemakers, please.)
11. Also, inside the cabin, you may occasionally experience minor electric shocks. MAKE SURE YOU ARE COMPLETELY DRY BEFORE USING ANY APPLIANCE!
12. You might hear shouts or explosions along Vanderpool Road between 11 P.M. and 4 A.M. These are routine field maneuvers conducted by General Vanderpool and his troops. If such noises occur, merely turn off all lights and remain inside your cabin.
13. Prolonged contact with lake water may irritate the skin. If problems occur, the Potterfield Burn Center (29 miles south on Route 182) is open 24 hours a day.
14. Now and then, federal law-enforcement officials may institute a blockade around the Vanderpool Republic. If such a policy is enacted, ask the highest-ranking officer for a pass allowing your family access to the cabin. Upon request, Kevlar vests will be provided.
15. Tap water reminder: Brown — safe to drink. Yellow — O.K. to drink, but chew thoroughly. Orange-like — turn off faucet and get out of cabin immediately.
16. During your stay, you may have the pleasure of meeting "the Professor," who lives in the woods not far from your cabin. He is harmless, though it's best not to offend him by flaunting electronic devices.
17. As the cabin continues to settle, the creaks and groans of aging woodwork at times may sound almost as if someone is in the basement, begging to be freed. For your own well-being and your family's safety, please stay out of the basement.

The writers, a reporter and a cartoonist for The Syracuse Herald-Journal, contributed this comment to The New York Times.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

NATO Not a Job Plan

Regarding "U.S. Arms Makers Lobby for NATO Expansion" (June 30):

U.S. defense manufacturers and their allies in the Pentagon are scurrying to cash in on an expected NATO expansion by dangling expensive weapons systems in front of Central European nations. Meanwhile, the State Department and the Treasury are expressing some concern about the economic consequences of projected increases in the military budgets of the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland.

Why this flagrant disparity between the responsible fiscal concern voiced by State and Treasury, and a rather inelegant and opportunistic hawkling of wares by the Defense Department and its industry pals?

Such a situation arises every time there is an important arms trade policy decision to be made, whether it is to end a 20-year ban on selling U.S. weapons to Latin America or to support Central European rearmament as a part of NATO enlargement.

No matter what the Pentagon and defense companies might say, NATO is not a U.S. jobs program. Defense industry lobbying — whether by company executives or Pentagon officials — has no place in the NATO debate.

The American public should encourage its government to eliminate defense industry lobbying for security or economic reasons then at the very least for coherence.

JORDANA D. FRIEDMAN, London.

The writer is the director of the International Security Program at the Council on Economic Priorities in New York.

Market Predictions

Regarding "Thailand Has Learned a Lesson That Others Should Heed" (Opinion, July 4) by Philip Bowring:

When Mexico was forced to devalue, Western economists were quick to predict that the Philippine peso would soon follow. The prediction fell flat, but sent shock waves through the Philippine market. These analysts are at it again with the baht crisis.

Western writers have the

tendency to lump together the economic fortunes of developing countries. This shows a complete misunderstanding of the different market conditions prevailing in those countries, including the so-called newly emerging markets such as the Philippines.

The Philippines has an older, more developed, more active and wider-based capital market than Mexico or Thailand. It has a floating exchange rate in both theory and practice. Yet Mr. Bowring did not point out that the peso has been stable against the dollar precisely because of exchange rates determined by the market.

The Philippine Central Bank was forced to push up short-term interest rates precisely to stave off attacks against the peso resulting from dire predictions made by Western economic analysts. Understanding the actual conditions of markets in developing countries would help avoid such analyses, which only contribute to undermining an active and rising market.

ANTONIO C. MODENA, Paris.

A Short Term?

Regarding "Get Used to Blair — and Hope He Turns Out to Be a Leader" (Opinion, June 26) by William Pfaff:

Mr. Pfaff states categorically, "Bill Clinton will be gone as the year 2000 begins." In fact, Mr. Clinton's term ends in January 2001 — despite years of Republican efforts spearheaded by Kenneth Starr, and tens of millions of dollars spent by both the taxpayers and Republican bigwigs. They haven't even come up with enough to slap the president with a parking ticket!

MARC EMORY, Düsseldorf.

Alternative Paper

Regarding "How Consumers Can Help Save the World's Forests" (Opinion, June 26) by Francis Sullivan:

The forest and wood certification programs described by Mr. Sullivan are positive steps. He points out that pulp and paper are the main wood products consumed in developed countries. The crucial question is whether this is a sustainable trend.

It seems unlikely that the world's forests can continue to support the dual demands of timber and paper production. Luckily, alternative papers from annual plants like kenaf and hemp as well as from agricultural wastes are becoming more affordable and available. These alternatives, along with maximum recycling of paper, are crucial for saving our forests. They also present promising economic opportunities as worldwide demand for paper grows.

Alternative papers will become widespread once the forests are gone. The challenge is to adopt their use before that happens. We have a few years left.

DOUG DAIGLE, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Constitutional Miracle

Regarding "Be Nice to the Constitution; Let It Be" (Opinion, July 4) by David S. Broder:

Once the 55 regionally, intellectually, emotionally and professionally diverse delegates to the Constitutional Convention had completed their work during the oppressively hot Philadelphia summer of 1787, George Washington wrote to their Paris-based friends, General Lafayette and Thomas Jefferson, respectively. The letters bore the same word: "miracle."

SHARI LESLIE SEGALL, Paris.

A 50-Year Friendship

I last wrote to you in April

1947. I had just moved from Derbyshire to London, finally safe from bombing. I was lonely, so I wrote to the New York Herald Tribune in an appeal for a pen-friend.

I was fortunate to receive three replies, and the third resulted in a special friendship that has endured until this very day. We communicated

throughout our teenage years, our college years, our careers, our marriages and our children.

Thank you most sincerely for printing my appeal — you could not have known the joy this friendship has brought me.

ELLA BELLENIE, Ickenham, England.

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r, director and head at Tokyo-Mitsubishi al in London, con- s comment to the In- Herald Tribune.

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ew York Times

YEARS AGO

something rich and -day (July 8), 100 Percy Bysshe Shel- be most remarkable poets, was drowned an coast. The ashes were consigned to this spot, which he led the "most beau- emn cemetery."

ying Saucers

K — The mystery ng disks, whirling objects skimming air at tremendous ained unsolved, but ed in from all sec- United States and ada that the phe- as observed again- ry objects have y thirty-nine states, are first reported to seen June 25 by mold, a pilot, of), while flying over Mountains.

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SOURIN MELIKIAN Arts Editor

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A Flaming Case of Kitsch Rembrandt's Altered States The Great Auction War Sleuths Among the Stalls

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Givenchy's tartan and python-leather suit with lattice-hair hat and antler skull bag by Alexander McQueen; Emanuel Ungaro's pierrette dress on a Venetian theme with tutu skirt and feather trim.

McQueen's Dance of the Macabre

By Suzy Menkes
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — What! No dead men's bones, human hearts or livers? Just these caged ravens giving the audience the evil eye; a handbag with a skeletal Bambi head and horns; a fan with a bird-claw handle, and a cape made from what looked like Rapunzel's chopped-off hair?

After the buildup to the Givenchy show in the British press, nothing could have lived up to Alexander McQueen's billing as the Damien Hirst of haute couture using anatomical remains for his fall show.

"I was quite worried when I read about it, but it isn't true at all — just a story planted by our competitors," said Bernard Arnault, Givenchy's owner, sitting front row in the University of Paris's Medical School, transformed with red velvet drapes, Persian rugs, and tiger and lion skins to suggest a mad surgeon's private den.

McQueen has a strange, macabre imagination and an aggression about as well tamed as the fierce falcon he brought out as he took his bow.

But what exactly is the British designer doing, letting rip his obsessions in haute couture? Heaven knows, couture needs energizing, but its fundamental point is to make women look wonderful, not weird.

In the show he sent out Monday, McQueen occasionally presented the best of himself — a few sharp pantsuits inset with lace and dresses where latticework created an hour-glass silhouette. But even those clothes were dressed up with flying-saucer eardrums, Miss Havisham wigs, and birds, birds, birds.

Feathers flattening into a bodice with a beaked head dangling around the neck and a hat containing a fluttering live bird

sent out a disconcerting message for women.

Following in the fashion footsteps of John Galiano (but taking a tough route rather than a romantic one), McQueen's show went from Queen Victoria's Scotland, through Madame Butterfly's Orient by way of Carmencita's Spain and Larvia, which produced a dramatically elegant swing coat. Needless to say, the only territory McQueen did not visit was the future.

What is the future of a haute-couture house with a designer who has a savage talent to reference the past and give it a dizzy spin — but whose clothes as shown would frighten off the bravest client?

McQueen called the collect "Eclect Dissect," and if you tore away the trappings like black lace ruffled bustles, there were lovely pieces, especially the chinoiserie tailored coats or the watery-green silk top and pants under a silver coat that suggested the show was sailing into calmer waters.

THE audience now knows that the idea of such shows is to catch the camera's eye — not necessarily to persuade the British ambassador's wife or Demi Moore to hop into the frocks.

And there is one customer out there crazy for the stuff. Step forward, Isabella Blow, McQueen's erstwhile muse, who appeared at the show poured into a patent-leather Givenchy dress, with a bird on her head and trailing an oil-covered chain to express "the burden woman carries through her life."

Someone should tell McQueen that clothes shouldn't be one of them.

Emanuel Ungaro was on a different fashion planet — but that also seemed as remote as the space pictures from Mars. "It was a dream that I wanted to do — Venice in the winter," said Ungaro of

the strange, poetic collection that he sent out Monday.

Think Venice — think Carnival — and so it was with the show, despite Ungaro's protestations that it was not a theme. As a flurry of tutu pirouettes around the gold-painted floor and feathered headdresses, exotic turbans and intricate layers of pattern and texture passed by, you could imagine yourself in a gondola on the Grand Canal in another century watching the masked revelers go by.

But here we are in the wash-and-go 1990s, and even if the point of couture is that it should be extraordinary, Ungaro made little concession to modern life. It is true that pants predominated, but they tended to be wispy shadows of transparent lace, worn with long tunics under brief waist-length jackets. Ungaro has very fine ateliers that can cut pin-striped pants effortlessly on the bias, but more typical was the men's tailoring-fabric given a girly spin with a flirty skirt.

As for decoration, Ungaro just let rip, as though he wanted to mark the end of fashion minimalism with dense patterns and textures and with more tassels, feathers, fabric neckpieces and lace embroidery than ever. The result could be beautiful in an out-of-this-world way but rich, indigestibly rich.

Yet the clients loved it. "It was beautiful," said Susan Gutfreund. "He has gone back to his best when he was layering fabrics and colors — I think he's a genius."

Imagine a 90-degree fashion turn and you have Adeline Andre's modernist poetry. The designer, invited by French fashion's governing body to present a collection, chose the glass rooftop of the Fondation Cartier to show her sculpted clothes in soft fabrics, where sleeves were half-kimono, half medieval and the body was concealed with inventive wrapping and cutting.

If the Suit Fits, Wear It

Menswear Message: The Man Makes the Clothes

By Suzy Menkes
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — In the great Savile Row tradition, it is the clothes that make the man — meaning that any body can be enhanced by the cut of a good suit.

The French menswear season that closed on Monday took a different attitude: It is the man that makes the clothes.

That is why Paul Smith opened his bold and witty show with an aristocratic young man, nose sniffing the air like a pedigree hound, and why Yohji Yamamoto sent out a long, lanky giant beside a pint-size man, in similar suits, to prove that "one style fits all mankind."

Using "real" men is supposed to be about asserting normality. Yet a cynical viewer of the spring-summer shows might suggest that without the changes of models and the all-over-town venues, most of the clothes would seem identical: the three-button suit in iridescent fabric; the soft shirt-jacket; the slender flat-front pants or baggy ones with cuffs spilling over sandals.

"It's the sheer volume of blandness, the cookie-cutter fashion — it's time for a change," said Smith.

The aristocratic, eccentric English glamour of Smith's collection was such a departure from the designer's regular-guy image that the audience watched in stunned silence suits patterned like stately home wallpapers or patterns of daisies on sweaters.

The hippie-deluxe style was a reference to a moment in the 1960s when Swinging London broke with Savile Row style. One model was even Saffron Rowley, nephew of the fashion muse Amanda Harlech, whose family was an integral part of the aristo-goes-pop era.

The point of Smith's show was to rehabilitate aristocratic dressing. Behind the couture reference — little gilt chairs and basting stitches on tailored suits — there was a sense of the nobility of well-cut, well-made clothing and the pleasure in dandy details from jaunty cravats through velvet slippers. It caught a fashion moment that marks Smith's move from street to chic.

And so to French couture. Hedi Slimane, 29, who was in diapers when Yves Saint Laurent was storming fashion, sent out his first YSL runway show. By playing with color, texture and new fabrics and by tweaking the proportion of a fitted suit or safari jacket, Slimane refreshed the classics. The signature pants were made wide but straight and the necktie matched the shirt. Safari jackets in whipcord silk gave a new spin to what the designer said was "a real pret-a-porter for a couturier."

Valentino does not seem sure if he wants to be couture — or cool. The casual sloppiness of the V Zone line that opened the show with baggy pants and tunic sweaters seemed out of sync with Valentino's precise image. But then so did the main collection's contrived asymmetric one-button suits. Valentino's message? That life's a beach, judging by the sand-strewn floor, soft colors and sandals with everything.

THE Japanese invented asymmetry, but Yohji Yamamoto instead focused on square-cut suits and coats. The not-so-new geometry seemed familiar, but the shirts were exceptional, with their handkerchief-fine collars, openwork on the chest, a stiff bow or a waterfall of silk folds to bring a touch of poetry to menswear without ever looking silly.

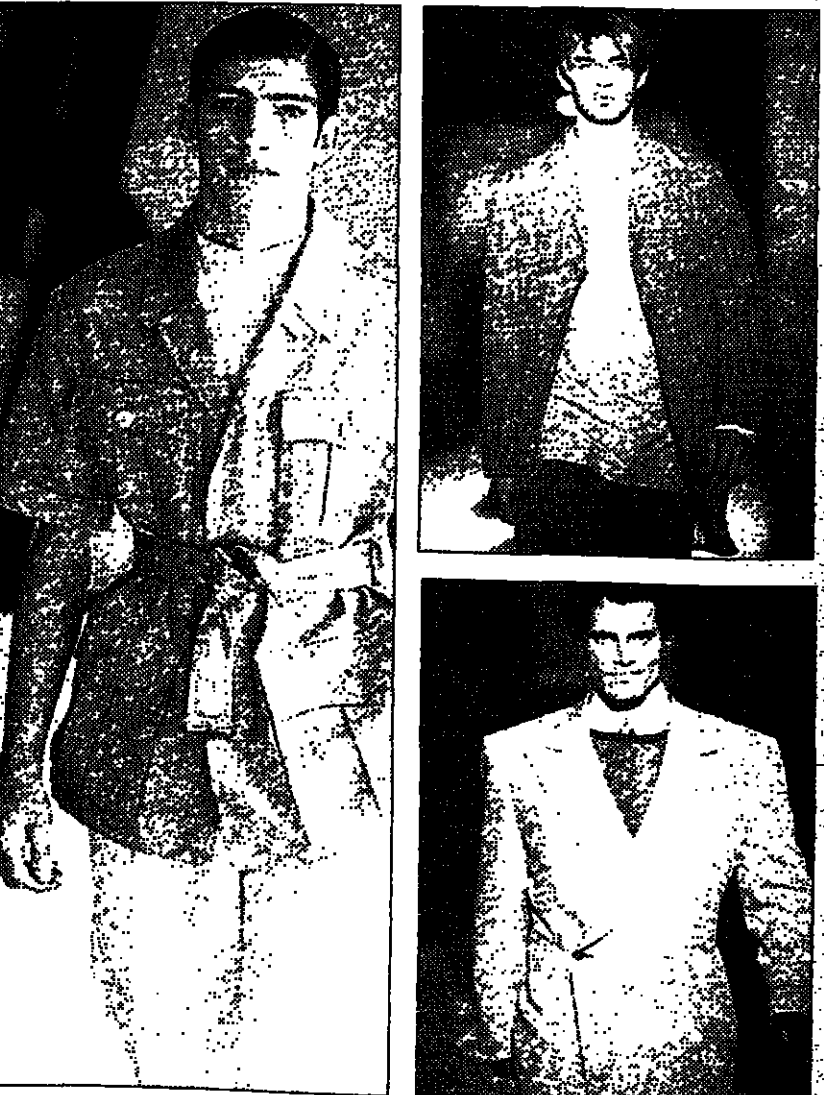
Dries Van Noten invented the men's show as a stroll around the block for regular guys. But there seemed something lacking in his new show. The natural, even rustic textures, contrasting with glazed fabrics, were part of the modern juggling with materials. Everything from the low-waist wide pants through the cardigan jackets were impeccably proportioned. Sweaters layered with overshirts were in the male comfort zone. But is Van Noten wise to abandon entirely the ethnic touches that used to give his shows an extra charm?

Kenzo swings merrily along that ethnic trail. The bongo drums summoned up images of Africa: tree-bark textures, tribal prints on sweaters and on skin bared for the swimsuit section. From India came heat-and-dust colors for suedees, while bold batik patterns were printed on shirts. Kenzo's great-escape formula enlivens straight-up clothes.

Who is man enough to wear velvet shorts — especially if they are in shocking pink? Rykiel Homme fell into the contrivance trap: modern sporty separates fancied up with violent colors or abstract patterns. But it was easy enough to ignore the showpieces and pick out the real clothes: the sleek suits shown monochrome, a la Gucci, and the taut sweaters worn with soft suedees.

Neither Thierry Mugler nor Claude Montana seem to be pushing forward in their men's collections. Mugler's tailoring is scalpel sharp and he has an eye for modern materials like rubber and jersey that give his collections an edge. Montana made the most of the one-button suit and showed his sleek leathers. But removing all the signature metallic trims made the show bland.

The most exhilarating show of the season was from Walter Van Beirendonck, a designer whose creative imagination is breathtaking and audaciously modern. By backing the W< collection of sports and club wear, Mustang jeans are on to a winner. For here was a superbly staged show that went straight on the Internet. A worldwide audience could view the witty opening of line dancing, a gruesomely decadent vampire scene, a passage on stilts (a take on the current ultra-long pants) and a finale of frog-masked ballroom dancing that sent the live audience home cheering.

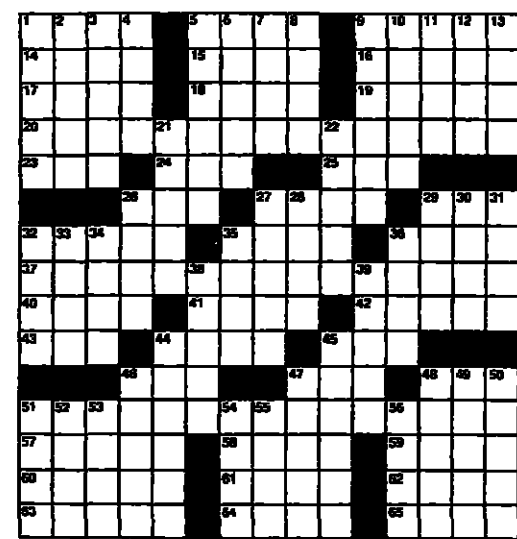


Top: Paul Smith's wallpaper-pattern, flower-cape suit and Yohji Yamamoto's poet's shirt with full sleeves and bow; center: line dancing in futuristic sportswear with pants wide and narrow from W< bottom, clockwise from left: Yves Saint Laurent's whipcord silk safari jacket and pants; Dries Van Noten's soft three-button jacket and overshirt, and Valentino's asymmetric one-button suit.

CROSSWORD

- ACROSS
- 1 "Voe is me!"
 - 3 A wanted man, maybe
 - 5 Miss in the comics
 - 14 — Le Pew
 - 15 Oldsmobile, e.g.
 - 16 Sound during hey fever season
 - 17 47-stringed instrument
 - 18 Flair

- 19 "Jurassic Park" sound- 20 Parental advice, part 1
- 21 — Moines
- 24 "O Sole"
- 25 Antislavery leader Turner
- 26 Call to Bo-peep
- 27 Once more, country-style
- 28 Name
- 29 See-through wrap
- 30 Scandinavian capital
- 31 "The Official Preppy Handbook" author Bimbach
- 32 Advice, part 2
- 33 — Major
- 34 Economist Smith
- 35 Listens to
- 36 "See ya!"
- 37 Utopia
- 38 Served with a meal
- 39 Choice of sizes: Abbr.
- 40 Not their
- 41 Twaddle
- 42 End of the advice
- 43 "Slits Warner" author
- 44 Derby distance, maybe
- 45 Small field
- 46 Training group
- 47 "Zip — Doo-dah!"
- 48 Wedding wear
- 49 Injured sneaky
- 50 Back talk
- 51 Mesozoic and others



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Solution to Puzzle of July 7

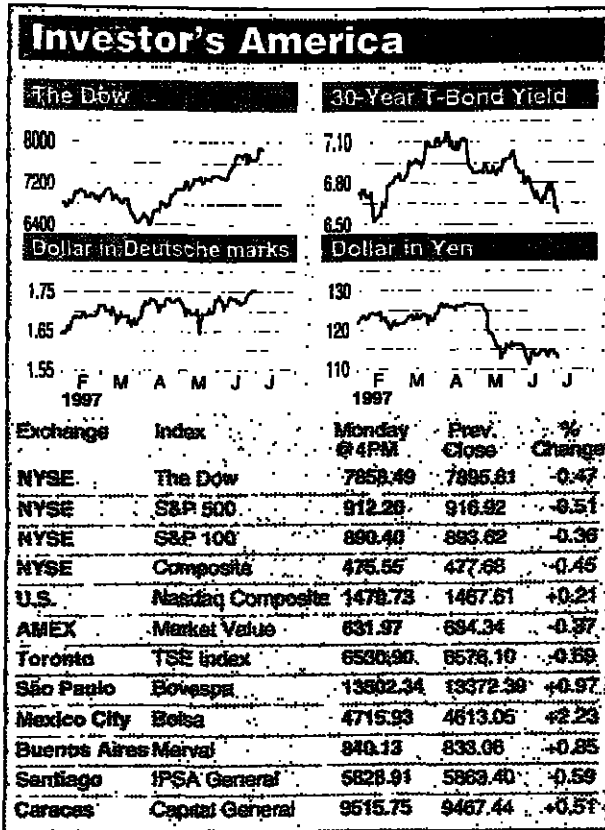
ACROSS
1 VOWEL
3 WANTED
5 MISS
14 LE PUEW
15 OLDSMOBILE
16 SOUND
17 47-STRINGED
18 FLAIR
19 JURASSIC
20 PARENTAL
21 MOINES
24 SOLE
25 TURNER
26 BOPEEP
27 ONCE
28 NAME
29 SEE-THROUGH
30 COPENHAGEN
31 BIMBACH
32 ADVICE
33 MAJOR
34 SMITH
35 LISTENS
36 SEE YA
37 UTOPIA
38 SERVED
39 CHOICE
40 NOT THEIRS
41 TWADDLE
42 END
43 WARREN
44 DERBY
45 SMALL
46 TRAINING
47 ZIP-DOODAH
48 WEDDING
49 INJURED
50 BACK
51 MESOZOIC

DOWN
1 GARDEN
2 WHAT
3 AFTER
4 FALL
5 FLAIR
6 WHERE
7 SURE
8 LETTERMAN
9 HIT
10 SHOWY
11 CALL
12 SEARCH
13 BEACH
14 LONG
15 MIDWESTERN
16 MURDER
17 BEAR
18 BRYAN
19 ORIENTAL
20 GRAB
21 A-MINUTE
22 PREVIOUSLY
23 CHORALE
24 THE SHORT
25 WRONG
26 YE-TEA
27 SHOPPE
28 TOLD
29 SCOP
30 TA-DA
31 HAMMED
32 KILLING
33 ME SOFTLY
34 BOUTIQUE
35 LOOKS
36 TRACK
37 OPEN-AIR
38 SKINS
39 ISLTHUS
40 PEARL
41 VERDI
42 90'S

Tel Paris: +33 (0)1 42 68 35 65
Fax Paris: +33 (0)1 42 68 35 61

صباح من الاحد

THE AMERICAS



Very briefly:

Integrated Health to Buy RoTech

OWINGS MILLS, Maryland (Bloomberg) — Integrated Health Services Inc. said Monday it would buy RoTech Medical Corp. for about \$915 million in stock and assumed debt to bolster its position in the U.S. home health-care market.

Integrated Health plans to issue about 15.8 million shares valued at \$615 million and assume debt and other obligations.

Aluminum Co. of America said its second-quarter net income rose 57 percent to \$207.6 million, or \$1.19 a share, as higher shipments offset lower prices for its aluminum.

Meridian Resource Corp. will buy Cairn Energy USA Inc. for \$234 million in stock, the two Gulf Coast oil and gas exploration companies said.

Imax Corp. said it would build 12 three-dimensional movie systems for three cinema chains in the United States and Canada; it did not disclose terms.

Saf-T-Lock Inc.'s shares will not be delisted by the Nasdaq stock market for insufficient total assets, as Nasdaq officials granted the gun-lock maker's request for a hearing. Bloomberg

Weekend Box Office

LOS ANGELES — "Men in Black" dominated the U.S. box office over the weekend, with a gross of \$51 million. Following are the Top 10 movies, based on Friday's ticket sales and estimated weekend grosses for Saturday and Sunday.

Rank	Title	Friday	Weekend
1	Men in Black	\$51 million	\$115 million
2	Face/Off	\$14.5 million	\$31.5 million
3	Harriet	\$11.4 million	\$24.4 million
4	My Best Friend's Wedding	\$11 million	\$23.5 million
5	Batman & Robin	\$8.6 million	\$18.6 million
6	Out to Sea	\$8.6 million	\$18.6 million
7	Con Air	\$7.2 million	\$15.2 million
8	The Last of the Mohicans	\$6.7 million	\$14.7 million
9	Wild America	\$5.8 million	\$12.8 million
10	Speed 2: Cruise Control	\$5.3 million	\$11.3 million

Analysts Hail Stability in Mexico

LONDON — Mexico's economic policy is widely expected to remain on its current track despite the dramatic shift in the political landscape after the governing Institutional Revolutionary Party's setback in legislative and local elections Sunday, financial analysts here said Monday.

Specialists in emerging markets said the fairness of the election, in contrast to fraud after previous elections, would be regarded as a watershed event and should have a positive effect on the country's investment prospects.

"There are lots of positive elements in this, particularly that it shows democracy is now functioning well in Mexico," said Peter West, chief economist at BBV Latinvest.

Analysts and economists also applauded comments by President Ernesto Zedillo, who congratulated the opposition candidate, Cuauhtemoc Cárdenas of the Party of the Democratic Revolution, on winning the mayoral election in Mexico City.

"Mexico has come a long way to becoming a fully Westernized democracy," said Chris Portman, senior economist at ANZ Investment in London. "Zedillo's comments can only add to the authenticity of the results, and it only confirms there won't be any major shift in policy as a result of this."

They said the fairness of the elections would be viewed positively by credit-rating agencies, though an immediate upgrading of Mexican debt or securities was unlikely.

But some analysts warned that there still could be the reason for uncertainty about economic policies. Richard Gray, an emerging-market analyst at BankAmerica Corp., said he was concerned

that party hard-liners might now conclude that they had lost ground because of the absence of a "feel-good factor" in the domestic economy.

"There is quite a lot of success to report on Mexico, but most of it has been in the export sector of the economy," Mr. Gray said.

"What the old guard will now claim is that there must be a faster rate of translation from that export success to the domestic side, and this is my concern going forward."

Another uncertainty, analysts said, is how the government will handle budget negotiations with other parties in Congress.

Gold, at its lowest point since mid-December 1985 and down 16 percent in the past year, has been overwhelmed by a wave of investor selling since Thursday that it had sold 167 metric tons of gold, or two-thirds of its strategic gold stocks. It used the cash to buy U.S. Japanese and German government bonds.

"The Australian sale just knocked another nail in the coffin," Steve Briggs, an analyst at the South African stockbroker E.W. Balder-

son. After looking at the prospects for inflation and better returns elsewhere, Australia's central bankers decided "they don't want gold," Mr. Briggs said.

Gold is now in uncharted waters. The slump in price threatens to shut some high-cost mines, some analysts said.

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Shares Take a Late Tumble Despite Rally in Bonds

NEW YORK — Stock prices dropped late in the day Monday, despite a rally in the bond market, as declines in drug companies and banks offset gains in computer-related issues.

"Investors are looking for a reason to sell," said Gene Grandone, director of investment counseling at Northern Trust Co. "With the market in the 7,900 area, people see a market that's a little rich and want to take a little bit off the table."

The Dow Jones industrial average, which flirted with record levels during much of the day and traded as high as 7,951.22 points, closed 37.32 points below Thursday's close, at 7,858.49. U.S. markets were closed Friday for Independence Day.

Bond prices, meanwhile, rose as expectations for slow inflation and steady interest rates cheered investors. The price of the benchmark 30-year Treasury bond jumped 19/32 to 100 1/32, taking the yield down to 6.58 percent, compared with 6.62 percent Thursday.

"It's hard to believe anything can get rosier than this in terms of inflation and the economy," said Mark Miller, a manager at Kayne Anderson Investment Management in Los Angeles.

Some investors said slowing profit growth would rein the market's rally.

"If yields are coming down because maybe the economy's slowing, then what's that mean for stocks long-term?" asked Michael Schroeder, president of Renaissance Capital Management. "It's real difficult for me to visualize double-digit profit growth. You're going to start to see more of a normal single-digit profit expansion."

American Express fell 4 1/2 to 78 1/2, accounting for more than one-fifth of the Dow's decline, after soaring Thursday on takeover speculation in the market. "Nothing happened, so I guess people are getting out of that stock," he said.

Investors are growing wary of buying stocks because the Standard & Poor's 500 index is already up 23 percent for the year, traders said.

The S&P 500 stock index was down 4.72 points at 912.20. The technology-heavy Nasdaq index was up 3.11 at 1,470.72.

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Gold Plummeted as Investors Flee

LONDON — Gold plummeted to a 12-year low Monday, extending last week's losses, amid concern central banks will sell more of the precious metal and that some inflation is reducing the need for a safe haven against higher prices.

Gold fell as much as \$10.55, to \$313.95 ounce, the lowest since July 1985, when it was at \$308.25, according to N.M. Rothschild & Sons. It was last quoted at \$318.00 an ounce.

Gold, at its lowest point since mid-December 1985 and down 16 percent in the past year, has been overwhelmed by a wave of investor selling since Thursday that it had sold 167 metric tons of gold, or two-thirds of its strategic gold stocks. It used the cash to buy U.S. Japanese and German government bonds.

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IBM: Hitachi Closes In

Continued from Page 11

chines, which finally equal the power of its last bipolar machine.

That left an opening for Hitachi, which developed Skyline: a hybrid machine that offered the power of the old-style mainframes, with many of the cost savings of the new silicon-chip-based designs. The most powerful of the current Skyline mainframes can process 780 million instructions a second, or MIPS, compared with 450 MIPS for the powerful CMOS machine from Big Blue.

In 1993, when much of the world believed that mainframes would soon be replaced by networks of smaller computers, Hitachi's strategy looked quixotic. But while many companies are now developing new applications on networks of smaller computers, their large, critical applications, like telephone billing and customer accounts, remain on mainframes.

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NYSE

Monday 4 p.m. Close
Notation: prices, not reflecting late trades elsewhere.
The Associated Press.

Symbol	Price	Change
IBM	100.00	+1.00
Microsoft	100.00	+1.00
Apple	100.00	+1.00
Oracle	100.00	+1.00
Sun	100.00	+1.00
HP	100.00	+1.00
Motorola	100.00	+1.00
Intel	100.00	+1.00
Compaq	100.00	+1.00
Novell	100.00	+1.00
Lucent	100.00	+1.00
WorldCom	100.00	+1.00
Sprint	100.00	+1.00
Verizon	100.00	+1.00
AT&T	100.00	+1.00
Qwest	100.00	+1.00
Southwest	100.00	+1.00
Delta	100.00	+1.00
American	100.00	+1.00
United	100.00	+1.00
Northwest	100.00	+1.00
Alaska	100.00	+1.00
JetBlue	100.00	+1.00
Southwest	100.00	+1.00
Delta	100.00	+1.00
American	100.00	+1.00
United	100.00	+1.00
Northwest	100.00	+1.00
Alaska	100.00	+1.00
JetBlue	100.00	+1.00

Symbol	Price	Change
IBM	100.00	+1.00
Microsoft	100.00	+1.00
Apple	100.00	+1.00
Oracle	100.00	+1.00
Sun	100.00	+1.00
HP	100.00	+1.00
Motorola	100.00	+1.00
Intel	100.00	+1.00
Compaq	100.00	+1.00
Novell	100.00	+1.00
Lucent	100.00	+1.00
WorldCom	100.00	+1.00
Sprint	100.00	+1.00
Verizon	100.00	+1.00
AT&T	100.00	+1.00
Qwest	100.00	+1.00
Southwest	100.00	+1.00
Delta	100.00	+1.00
American	100.00	+1.00
United	100.00	+1.00
Northwest	100.00	+1.00
Alaska	100.00	+1.00
JetBlue	100.00	+1.00
Southwest	100.00	+1.00
Delta	100.00	+1.00
American	100.00	+1.00
United	100.00	+1.00
Northwest	100.00	+1.00
Alaska	100.00	+1.00
JetBlue	100.00	+1.00

Symbol	Price	Change
IBM	100.00	+1.00
Microsoft	100.00	+1.00
Apple	100.00	+1.00
Oracle	100.00	+1.00
Sun	100.00	+1.00
HP	100.00	+1.00
Motorola	100.00	+1.00
Intel	100.00	+1.00
Compaq	100.00	+1.00
Novell	100.00	+1.00
Lucent	100.00	+1.00
WorldCom	100.00	+1.00
Sprint	100.00	+1.00
Verizon	100.00	+1.00
AT&T	100.00	+1.00
Qwest	100.00	+1.00
Southwest	100.00	+1.00
Delta	100.00	+1.00
American	100.00	+1.00
United	100.00	+1.00
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JetBlue	100.00	+1.00
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American	100.00	+1.00
United	100.00	+1.00
Northwest	100.00	+1.00
Alaska	100.00	+1.00
JetBlue	100.00	+1.00

Symbol	Price	Change
IBM	100.00	+1.00
Microsoft	100.00	+1.00
Apple	100.00	+1.00
Oracle	100.00	+1.00
Sun	100.00	+1.00
HP	100.00	+1.00
Motorola	100.00	+1.00
Intel	100.00	+1.00
Compaq	100.00	+1.00
Novell	100.00	+1.00
Lucent	100.00	+1.00
WorldCom	100.00	+1.00
Sprint	100.00	+1.00
Verizon	100.00	+1.00
AT&T	100.00	+1.00
Qwest	100.00	+1.00
Southwest	100.00	+1.00
Delta	100.00	+1.00
American	100.00	+1.00
United	100.00	+1.00
Northwest	100.00	+1.00
Alaska	100.00	+1.00
JetBlue	100.00	+1.00
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Northwest	100.00	+1.00
Alaska	100.00	+1.00
JetBlue	100.00	+1.00

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Symbol	Price	Change
IBM	100.00	+1.00
Microsoft	100.00	+1.00
Apple	100.00	+1.00
Oracle	100.00	+1.00
Sun	100.00	+1.00
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Sprint	100.00	+1.00
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Alaska	100.00	+1.00
JetBlue	100.00	+1.00

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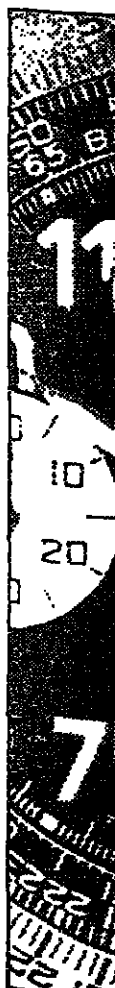
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ASIA/PACIFIC

Chipmakers' Shares Fall Sharply in Seoul On Export Prospects

SEOUL — Investors dumped semiconductor makers' shares Monday after the government issued a gloomy outlook for exports following a sharp drop in microchip prices in the U.S. market.

The finance and economy ministry said prospects for semiconductor exports were shaky because of the low international price of South Korea's mainstay 16-megabit dynamic random-access memory chips, or D-RAMs. The price of 16-megabit D-RAMs has dropped to less than \$7 a unit in the U.S. market from \$10 in March.

The government's export forecast sent electronics shares tumbling. The benchmark Korea Composite Stock Price Index fell 5.73 points, or about 0.7 percent, to 773.51.

Samsung Electronics Co., the world's largest maker of memory chips, fell 2.8 percent, to close at 70,500 won (\$79.47). Hyundai Electronics Industries Co., also a major chipmaker, lost 2.4 percent, to 46,600, and LG Semicon Co. slipped 1.7 percent, to 35,700.

All three of those companies said Monday they would reduce production of their mainstay computer chips by one-third in the next few weeks to try to bolster prices.

Hyundai To Increase Its Capital

SEOUL — Hyundai Motor Co., South Korea's largest automaker, announced Monday that it would raise \$200 million to \$300 million in September, possibly through overseas securities issues.

Park Byung Jae, Hyundai's president, said the company would raise the capital to pay for offshore projects such as the construction of a \$1.1 billion auto plant in India.

"Hyundai is more likely to issue foreign securities, rather than taking out foreign loans," Mr. Park said.

Hyundai's sales in the first half of 1997 fell 7 percent from a year earlier, to 593,989 vehicles, because of a strike and the weaker yen, which helped its Japanese competitors. Exports rose 6 percent, to 282,560 vehicles, while domestic sales fell 16 percent, to 311,429.

Manila Raises Interest Rates

Officials Seek to Deflect Speculative Attack on Peso

MANILA — The Philippine Central Bank raised interest rates and intervened in currency markets Monday to save the peso from a sudden attack by speculators amid fears of a devaluation.

The speculative attack was blamed on weekend reports, which have since been denied, quoting Finance Secretary Roberto de Ocampo as saying the peso could be devalued in the next few weeks.

Mr. Ocampo denied the report and said it was "unlikely" that the Philippines would devalue the peso. He praised the central bank's decision to raise interest rates as "prudent foreign-exchange management policy."

The central bank raised overnight borrowing rates to 30 percent from 24 percent to try to protect the peso from speculators. On Wednesday, the central bank raised overnight borrowing rates to 24 percent from 15 percent in two stages after Thailand floated the baht, which immediately plunged, triggering speculative attacks on the peso.

Traders said the central bank could not afford to keep interest rates this high for long, because such rates make it expensive to borrow and thus choke off economic growth.

"The peso is in trouble for a number of reasons," one analyst said, "mainly because the Philippines is at a similar stage economically as Thailand with the same structural problems."

The dollar was trading at 26.39 pesos, unchanged from Friday.

The trade and industry secretary, Cesar Bautista, meanwhile contended that only two or three foreigners were behind the speculative attacks on the peso.

"There are two or three individuals who are trying to attack the peso," Mr. Bautista said. "They are not Filipinos. It is something from abroad." He added, "You can't blame them; they are trying to make money."

(AFP, Bloomberg, Reuters)

Thais Hope to Gain as Baht Falls

BANGKOK — Waeudao Chiranan, marketing manager of the Royal Princess Hotel, would be high on any list of Thais likely to appreciate the benefits of last week's devaluation of the baht.

Instantly, her job got easier. The 13 percent fall in its currency's value makes Thailand more affordable for the thousands who come here to shop, snorkel and ride elephants.

"Thailand is now more of a bargain, because people feel richer when they come," she said.

Tourists represent the main source of hard currency in this country, and they account for 5 percent of its gross domestic product.

In 1990, income from tourism in Thailand totaled 111 billion baht (\$3.8 billion), triple the amount spent by Thais abroad. By last year, the ratio was down to about 2 to 1, as tourism generated about 219 billion baht and Thais spent about 110 billion baht abroad.

A boom in the tourist trade now would bring immediate assistance to an economy growing at its slowest pace since 1986. But it could also bring unwanted side effects, such as increased inflation and a surge in interest rates, and it could make people such as Ms. Waeudao change their shopping habits.

Like thousands of middle- and upper-income Thais, Ms. Waeudao has done much of her shopping abroad, helping inflate a current-account deficit that was one of the highest in the world last year, totaling about 8 percent of the country's output.

"We're hoping that an increase in foreign business will more than offset the impact on Thais," said Pinitida Bhatyanond, marketing director of a six-story mall aimed at high-end shoppers.

Jakarta Curbs Tariffs and Lending

JAKARTA — The government unveiled an economic deregulation package Monday, cutting tariffs on 1,600 items but introducing measures to limit real-estate loans.

The coordinating minister for economics, finance and supervisor of development, Saleh Afiff, said at a news conference that the government was cutting tariffs on 1,600 items — 1,461 manufactured products, 136 agricultural products and three items in the health sector.

The tariff cuts follow a call by the World Bank for Indonesia to step up the deregulation of its economy. Mr. Afiff said the package would do just that and would help business and stimulate economic growth and efficiency.

He also said that as of next Monday the central bank would not give credit for land or real-estate development. The World Bank has expressed concern about soaring property loans.

(Reuters, Bloomberg)

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(Reuters, Bloomberg)

Japan May End Phone Restrictions

Lifting of 2 Bans Could Make International Calls Cheaper

TOKYO — Japan may lift a ban on Internet-based phone services next month, an official at the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications disclosed Monday, a move that could reduce the cost of calls to the United States by as much as 90 percent.

The ministry will also scrap restrictions later this year to allow bulk leasing of phone lines owned by Japanese international phone service companies, the official said.

Both steps would give new competitors access to local phone networks connecting millions of Japanese homes and offices.

The moves are a blow to KDD Co., the nation's biggest international phone company, which once had a monopoly over international phone services from Japan. KDD shares fell 0.5 percent to 7,610 yen (\$67.34).

KDD's pretax profit fell by a third last year as customers switched to "call-back" companies, which ring back from cheaper, overseas destinations. Those rivals — including AT&T Corp. of the United States — charge as little as about 50 yen a minute for calls between the United States and Japan. KDD charges an average of around nine times that.

Internet phone technology has been plagued by reliability problems. KDD will suffer less from the debut of this service, analysts said, than from such experienced competitors as AT&T and British Telecommunications PLC using leased lines.

Companies providing service using lines leased from KDD or Japan's two other international phone service providers will be able to offer consumers discounts of 30 to 50 percent, said Tod Wood, analyst in the Tokyo Office of ING Baring Securities (Japan) Ltd.

"That'll probably have a much larger impact on revenue and profit than the Internet will," he said of the effects on KDD.

Because the supply of lines for international long-distance service exceeds the demand, KDD and the other Japanese providers, International Telecom Japan Inc. and IDC Co., will not balk at leasing out their lines at discounted rates to bulk users, Mr. Wood said.

Hisao Horinouchi, Minister of Posts and Telecommunications, will address the topic at a speech at a conference on global information networks at the European Union ministerial meeting in Brussels.

KDD has forecast an 18 percent drop in pretax profit to 17 billion yen for the business year ending next March. The company has about two-thirds of the 286 billion yen market in Japan for international phone calls.

New Worry Over Bad Loans

Japanese stocks fell after the bankruptcy of a medium-sized contractor reignited concern about bad loans. The Associated Press reported.

The 225-issue Nikkei Stock Average dropped 262.83 points, or 1.3 percent, to 19,705.17.

On Friday, the average fell 153.41, or 0.76 percent.

The failure of the general contractor Tokai Kogyo Co. was a reminder to investors that Japan's bad-loan problem extends far beyond the nation's big banks, traders said.

It was feared the bankruptcy, with an estimated debt of 510 billion yen, would affect the company's 700 associates and 3,500 subcontractors, while forcing banks to write off loans to the contractor.

Tokai Kogyo filed for bankruptcy with 510 billion yen in debt, mainly from nonperforming real estate loans. It was the fourth listed company to fail this year and the first listed general contractor to go under since the end of World War II.

The company specialized in building refrigerated warehouses, but it was an ill-timed foray into real estate development in the late 1980s that left it with a mountain of debt.

The Finance Ministry has said Japan's financial system was burdened with about 29 trillion yen in bad loans as of March 31.

That estimate, however, did not include soured loans at hundreds of real estate and construction companies.

What Follows 'Virtual Pet'? A Monster

TOKYO — Bandai Corp. announced Monday the launching of an electronic pet called Digital Monster to capitalize on the worldwide success of its Tamagotchi, a chick-like "virtual pet" that requires diligent feeding, cleaning and nurturing.

Owners of the "virtual monsters" can link their digital toys and let two creatures battle it out, Bandai said. During the growth process of the monster, players must supply it with plenty of "protein," organize workouts for it in preparation for fighting and treat any injuries after a match.

The well-being of the monsters depends on how many battles they win and the quality of medical care they get afterward, Bandai said.

Digital Monster, which had its debut in late June, is priced at 1,980 yen (\$17), the same price as the Tamagotchi. Bandai said it expected to sell 1.5 million units by the end of the year.

Bandai has sold 10 million Tamagotchis in Japan since the virtual pet began to be marketed in November. An English-language version has proved popular in markets ranging from Singapore, Hong Kong and Bangkok to New York, London and Rome.



A dealer signaling during the Nikkei's 1.3 percent drop Monday after the bankruptcy of a contractor reignited concern in Japan about bad loans.



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Investor's Asia				
Hong Kong Hang Seng	Singapore Straits Times	Tokyo Nikkei 225		
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1997	1997	1997		
Exchange	Index	Monday Close	Prev. Close	% Change
Hong Kong Hang Seng		14,858.58	14,822.97	+0.24
Singapore Straits Times		1,997.99	1,995.94	+0.01
Sydney All Ordinaries		2,713.00	2,733.40	-0.75
Tokyo Nikkei 225		19,705.17	19,968.00	-1.32
Kuala Lumpur Composite		1,060.53	1,073.31	-1.19
Bangkok SET		633.03	657.09	-3.66
Seoul Composite Index		773.51	779.24	-0.74
Taipei Stock Market Index		9,322.84	9,258.63	+0.69
Manila PSE		2,753.15	2,758.96	-0.21
Jakarta Composite Index		738.01	736.60	+0.19
Wellington NZSE-40		2,513.78	2,526.65	-0.51
Bombay Sensitive Index		4,291.45	4,323.82	-0.75

Source: Telekurs

Very briefly:

- D-Brain Securities Co., Japan's first brokerage to offer trading on the Internet in stocks of unlisted start-up companies, will begin its service in August with shares of eight venture businesses. A ban on trading in stocks of unlisted companies was lifted at the beginning of July.
- Singapore's output of manufactured goods fell 1.6 percent in May as electronics production fell. The report came after the government announced that non-oil exports, a closely watched indicator, fell an unexpected 1.1 percent in May.
- Syarikat Binaan Budi Sawmill Bhd.'s shares more than doubled in price in their debut on the Kuala Lumpur stock exchange. The Malaysian timber company's shares climbed as high as 9.10 ringgit (\$3.61) from an offering price of 3.10 before closing at 7.70.
- Taiwan's exports fell in June from May after an outbreak of hoof-and-mouth disease on pig farms hammered pork sales. Exports fell 2 percent, to \$9.96 billion last month from \$10.16 billion the month before, but the figure was still up 2.7 percent from June 1996.
- MasterCard International Inc. will have more payment cards in China than in the United States during the next decade, the company said. China is already MasterCard's second-largest market, with more than 13 million cards and transactions totaling \$75 billion in 1996.
- Kong Wah Holdings Ltd., a Hong Kong television maker, agreed to pay 960,000 Hong Kong dollars (\$124,000) in damages to members of the Business Software Alliance for using illegal software.

Bloomberg

Monday 4 p.m.

Monday 4 p.m.
The 1,000 most-traded National Market securities
in terms of dollar value, updated twice a year.
The Associated Press.

11 Month	High Low Stock	DIV	Yld	PE	52 Wk High	Low	Latest Chg
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12 Month	Div	Vol	Pd	SE	100% High	Low	Lowest	Open
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1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	2036	2037	2038	2039	2040	2041	2042	2043	2044	2045	2046	2047	2048	2049	2050	2051	2052	2053	2054	2055	2056	2057	2058	2059	2060	2061	2062	2063	2064	2065	2066	2067	2068	2069	2070	2071	2072	2073	2074	2075	2076	2077	2078	2079	2080	2081	2082	2083	2084	2085	2086	2087	2088	2089	2090	2091	2092	2093	2094	2095	2096	2097	2098	2099	2100
1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	2036	2037	2038	2039	2040	2041	2042	2043	2044	2045	2046	2047	2048	2049	2050	2051	2052	2053	2054	2055	2056	2057	2058	2059	2060	2061	2062	2063	2064	2065	2066	2067	2068	2069	2070	2071	2072	2073	2074	2075	2076	2077	2078	2079	2080	2081	2082	2083	2084	2085	2086	2087	2088	2089	2090	2091	2092	2093	2094	2095	2096	2097	2098	2099	2100

NYSE

Monday 4 p.m. Close

(Continued)

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12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0													
Hour	Day	Vol	PR	High	Low	Open	Close	High	Low	Open	Close	High	Low	Open	Close	High	Low	Open	Close	High	Low	Open	Close	High	Low	Open	Close	High	Low	Open	Close	High	Low	Open	Close	High	Low	Open	Close	High	Low	Open	Close								
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12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
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12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
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12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
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12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
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12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
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12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
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12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4																																											

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INTERNATIONAL FUNDS

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The Communicator.

WORLD ROUNDUP



Shane Warne appealing in vain for John Crawley's wicket.

Australia Levels Ashes Test Series

CRICKET Australia quickly wrapped up the third test Monday, capturing the remaining five English wickets in an hour and a half to win the match by 268 runs and square the six-match series, 1-1.

England, on 130 runs for five wickets overnight, were all out for 200. The fast bowler Glenn McGrath took four of the five wickets. Among his victims was John Crawley, England's top scorer, who unaccountably was out for his wicket after making 83.

McGrath also dismissed Mark Ealham, Robert Croft and Darren Gough. Spin bowler Shane Warne ended the match by having Andy Caddick caught for 17. (Reuters)

Johnson Starts for AL

BASEBALL Randy Johnson, dominating batters again only 10 months after back surgery, was picked to start Tuesday night's All-Star game when Joe Torre, the Yankees manager, named the American-League lineup Monday.

Johnson will be opposed by Greg Maddux, named Monday by Bobby Cox of the Atlanta Braves as the National League's starter for the game in Cleveland.

It will be the second All-Star start for both pitchers.

Torre picked Brady Anderson to lead off and play left, followed by shortstop Alex Rodriguez, center fielder Ken Griffey Jr., first baseman Tim Lincecum, designated hitter Edgar Martinez, right fielder Paul O'Neill filling in for the injured David Justice, third baseman Cal Ripken, catcher Ivan Rodriguez and second baseman Roberto Alomar.

Cox opens with second baseman Craig Biggio. The next two hitters are Tony Gwynn and Barry Bonds, who will either be the designated hitter or the left fielder.

"Whatever they feel," Cox said.

Catcher Mike Piazza hits cleanup, followed by first baseman Jeff Bagwell, Walker, third baseman Ken Caminiti, center fielder Ray Lankford filling in for the injured Kenny Lofton, and shortstop Jeff Blaser filling in for the injured Barry Larkin. (AP)

Yugoslavia Triumphs

BASKETBALL Yugoslavia beat Italy, 61-49, in Barcelona for its second consecutive European Basketball Championship and fourth in the last five years.

The forward Dejan Bodiroga led Yugoslavia's balanced attack Sunday with 14 points. Carlton Myers led Italy with 17 points. (AP)

Without Compelling Rivalries, Tennis Is a Troubled Sport

International Herald Tribune

WIMBLEDON, England — Wimbledon restored confidence in the game's Nos. 1, Pete Sampras and Martina Hingis, as well as created the promise that the world's oldest tournament will benefit from the home support for Tim Henman and Greg Rusedski, who should be British contenders for years to come.

But the sport is still in trouble. Sampras's fourth Wimbledon title in five years, and his 10th Grand Slam championship overall (leaving him two short of Roy Emerson's career record), probably won't uplift the doldrums of American tennis. Television ratings are down, and the sport simply doesn't know how to sell itself in more inventive ways, in part because its public relations are abysmal. So it all comes down to Sampras.

But it seems clear that he won't become a star in the United States until the end of his career, when he is vulnerable and the public latches onto him as it did to Jimmy Connors at the end. Until then, Sampras could use a colorful American

rival, allowing him to thrive in the role of straight man. But he doesn't see that happening anytime soon.

"I think the Americans are really going to have to enjoy what they have right now," Sampras said, "because I really don't see anyone coming up who's going to do what I've done and Andre (Agassi) and Jim (Courier) and Michael (Chang)." Then he called for Agassi to end his honeymoon with Brooke Shields and come back to work. Well, Sampras didn't put it quite that way.

"In the United States, you need a rivalry, you need some different personalities, and when we match up we have that, Andre and I," Sampras said. "People that don't follow tennis will follow tennis to watch that match. For the past couple of years, we really haven't had that in tennis."

Adding to the damage was last week's retirement from Grand Slam tennis of Boris Becker. Without Becker and Steffi Graf, herself considering re-

Vantage Point/IAN THOMSEN

irement as she recovers from recent knee surgery, the German TV market has suddenly become vulnerable. If it crumbles, then all of Europe will suffer. Germany is the economic heart of European tennis.

"He's brought a lot of money to the game, especially in Germany with all the TV money, and he's the Michael Jordan of Germany," Sampras said of Becker.

THE MEN'S TOUR has tried to react to these long-developing problems by announcing a breakthrough proposal for ranking its players. It seems, however, that Mark Miles, the ATP Tour's chief executive, failed to predict the response of European players, agents and tournament directors. They claimed, with justification, that the ATP Tour's restructuring plans had been formulated without seeking their advice. They argued that the tour was run by Americans and led by American players who treated Europe as a gold

mine. Miles has since retreated and begun seeking their input.

Yet the core of his plan is a good one. First, he wants all of the top men players to enter all four of the Grand Slam tournaments — or face a lowering of their ranking if they refuse. No longer, then, could so many of the top clay-court specialists refuse to play Wimbledon, as happened this year.

In addition, the best players would be expected to appear at the eight most prestigious ATP Tour events. This would allow fans to start making sense of the tennis season. They could start looking forward to those 12 tournaments each year that have real value. At the moment, the ATP Tour seems to be less a tour and more a sanctioned free-for-all, with many of the top players openly referring to tour events as mere preparatory tournaments for the Grand Slams.

The current ranking system, based on a complicated points system that carries over from one year to the next, also needs overhaul. Miles has suggested, wonderfully, that all players start each year with zero points. Then the ranking system

would become a race from the start to see who finishes No. 1. The clay-court players might take the early lead, but all-around champions like Sampras could overtake them by the end of the year.

The problem will be to negotiate which eight tournaments are graded as the ATP Tour's elite.

There have also been outcries that the new plan will reward the top players with even more money. Miles would like to see more nine-day ATP Tour events, paired with the women's tour, as happens at the Lipton in Key Biscayne, Florida, but his critics say most sites lack the facilities to put on a tournament for men and women simultaneously. He is even floating the idea that the French Open and Wimbledon adjust their dates to create a larger window than the current two weeks separating them (horror).

A system forcing the best players to meet each other a dozen times a year would create rivalries naturally, helping tennis become the second truly global league, after Formula One. If nothing changes, tennis might dwindle into a game made up of regional heroes.

Sprinter Staying Cool Under Tour's Pressure

By Samuel Abt
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — In 1994, when he was the fastest amateur sprinter in France, the winner of 21 bicycle races in six months, Gordon Fraser picked up the nickname of Flash Gordon. The next few seasons, after he turned professional, he became just plain Gord.

"Three years without a win is a long time," the Canadian admitted in an interview. "Especially for a sprinter. I went from where I was winning almost every week to getting my butt kicked every race."

He sounded relaxed as he talked about his chances, and those of his Mutuelle de Seine et Marne team, in the 84th Tour de France. Boosted by Fraser's first professional victory, in a sprint in the Midi Libre race last month, the minor French team found itself among the 22 selections for the Tour.

"I feel excited," Fraser said. "We're a small team, and there's a lot of pressure on me since I'm one of the main sources of results for the team. But now that I've got the win in the Midi Libre, the monkey is off my back."

He showed that Sunday by finishing seventh in the mass sprint into Forges les Eaux at the end of the Tour's first daily stage. Fraser will have other chances for the next week, which will cover the flat territory where sprinters traditionally shine. Then the race enters the mountains, where they don't.

"The seventh place was very encouraging," he said. He finished just behind such big names as Mario Cipollini, Tom Steels, Frederic Moncassin and Erik Zabel.

Those are some of the men that Fraser, a 28-year-old native of Ottawa, will be dueling with. "I belong now, and hopefully..." he said, letting the words trail away.

This is his first major Tour after he spent two fruitless years with the Motorola team. "I wasn't really riding so well then, so I didn't give them much confidence in me," he said. "It was a big team and sometimes guys just get lost. I wasn't progressing, wasn't riding well enough, so they didn't put me into enough races."

His new team does not have that luxury, a fact that Fraser appreciates. "My first goal is just to finish and maybe get some high places, maybe win because sprinters are never satisfied unless they win. So obviously, I'm looking

to win, but I'd be lying if I said I wouldn't be satisfied with a top five or a top 10 finish."

To gain that, he will need more than hopes. "I finally got placed perfectly in the Midi Libre win," he said. "That's the real secret in sprinting: being in the right place with 500 meters to go."

The right place, he continued, is just behind a leadout man who shepherds the sprinter into the last kilometer, setting a fast pace while letting him save his energy by riding in the draft. It's called riding on a wheel.

"You look at Cipollini's team, and they're basically leadout men," Fraser said. "They ride the last 20 kilometers together, and there are always one or two guys left with him to ride on a wheel in the last kilometer."

A leadout man is precisely what Fraser's Mutuelle de Seine et Marne team does not have. "What our guys do to their maximum is keep me out of the wind and out of the real fighting for wheels until they go as far as they can go," Fraser said. "That's usually with two or three kilometers to go, sometimes further" as the pace accelerates beyond his teammates' abilities.

"After that," he added, "I just take care of myself. In sprinting, there's so much etiquette involved. If you're on your leadout man, that's your spot and normally people don't mess with you. But if you're by yourself, you really don't have a place and you have to keep your elbows out and that sort of thing."

According to Fraser, the sprinters to watch in the Tour are Cipollini of the Saeco team, Steels of Mapei and Zabel of Telekom. "I think they're the top three," he said. "For the best possible place, you try to be behind them."

If not, Fraser would like to follow Moncassin of Gan or Adriano Baffi of U.S. Postal Service. "You're going to be top 10 with them," he said, since they are usually near the front. All customarily begin sprinting with 250 or 300 meters to go. Wheels to avoid are those of Jeroen Blijlevens of TVM and Robbie McEwen of Rabobank because they both ride like Fraser and customarily make their jump from behind as the race begins to run out of road.

"Like them, I'll probably try to start my sprint with 150 meters to go," Fraser said. "That's really late."

Whichever wheel he follows, Fraser insisted he would not be intimidated. "Not at all. We're here, we deserve our spot, the team and I."



ROYAL GUARD — Mario Cipollini, the Tour de France leader, riding in Monday's 262-kilometer stage to Vire in Normandy. Cipollini, surrounded by his Saeco teammates, wore yellow shorts and rode a yellow bike to match the leader's jersey he won Sunday. He increased his overall lead by winning his second consecutive sprint finish, catching Erik Zabel of the Telekom team in the closing yards and holding off Jeroen Blijlevens of TVM.

Bolivia and Ecuador: Slippery Slope

Reuters

Bolivia and Ecuador slipped on the road to the World Cup finals in the weekend's South American qualifiers.

Ecuador dropped two precious points Sunday as it was tied, 1-1, in Venezuela in the oil city of Maracaibo, while Bolivia, beaten finalists in the Copa America last week, lost by 2-1 to Peru, which kept on Chile's tail.

Chile, which hammered the fading Colombians, 4-1, in Santiago on Saturday, leapfrogged Ecuador. Bolivia and Uruguay in the continent's qualifying standings.

Chile, the group's top goal scorer, jumped into fourth place and plays four of its remaining five games at home.

Paraguay suffered its first home defeat in four years, 2-1, to second-placed Argentina. It stays on top, but Peru two goals ahead, although leads Argentina by one point.

The top four teams in the group will qualify for France. Paraguay, Argentina and Colombia, which is level with Argentina, are well-placed. But after

WORLD CUP SOCCER

Saturday's debacle, Colombia has taken one point from its last five games.

Chile's victory before 75,000 in Santiago was set up by a first-half hat-trick by Marcelo Salas. Two of his goals were set up by the striker Ivan Zamorano, who also scored a last-minute penalty for his 10th goal of the qualifiers.

Peru's victory in Lima kept it level on points with Chile, but it has played a game more, and its goal difference is worse than Chile's by 10.

German Carty and Jose Soto put Peru two goals ahead, although

Bolivia could have forced a draw. It pulled one goal back through Luis Cristaldo and missed an excellent chance to equalize.

Bolivia's chances of reaching a second successive World Cup look increasingly remote.

In a game between the only two South American nations never to have played in a World Cup, Ecuador conceded an equalizer eight minutes from time against Venezuela, the bottom team in the group without a victory.

In Asuncion, Argentina ended Paraguay's 100 percent home record in the qualifiers with first-half goals by Marcelo Gallardo, whose free kick crept in at the near post, and Juan Veron. Roberto Acuna replied with a second-half penalty. Gallardo atoned for his Copa America performance, where he took four penalties and missed two.

Showing Mental Toughness, Woods Takes Western Open

By Clifton Brown
New York Times Service

LEMONT, Illinois — Tiger Woods won the Western Open with a round of golf that displayed many of his remarkable gifts — savvy, mental toughness, length off the tee and a flair for the dramatic.

When the final round started Sunday, at least 15 players had a legitimate chance to win. But when the day ended, Woods stood alone on top, showing again that when he senses victory, he is like a shark that smells blood.

Shooting a four-under-par 68 for the round and finishing 13 under par for the tournament (275), Woods won by three strokes over Frank Nobilo.

The first-place check of \$360,000 pushed Woods's career earnings to \$2,551,627. He has won \$1,761,033 this year, making him almost a cinch to break Tom Lehman's season money-earning record of \$1,780,159, set last year.

Capturing his fourth tournament this year, Woods re-established himself as a favorite for the British Open this month, if there was ever a doubt.

"I won with my mind this week," said Woods, who will take a week off to get ready for the British Open, which begins July 17 at Royal Troon Golf Club in Scotland. "I didn't drive the ball particularly well. My iron game was pretty good, and I putted in spurts. It's

nice to win a tournament like that, because that's what wins majors. You probably hit the ball worse in majors because of sheer nerves. It's nice to be able to rely on your mind."

"I had to play very patient golf. I was in the rough a lot. I had to be very patient until I had an opportunity to be aggressive. And when I had that opportunity, I took advantage."

The tournament turned in Woods's favor for good at the par-3, 192-yard No. 14, where he made the day's most dramatic shot, nearly a hole in one. Woods hit a 9-iron shot off the tee that landed perilously close to the right bunker.

But this was his day. The slope of the ground kicked the ball back toward the hole, across the green from right to left, and it rolled slowly toward the hole as the crowd roared. The ball stopped less than a foot away. He tapped in for a birdie, taking a one-shot lead over Nobilo.

When Nobilo realized that Woods had birdied both Nos. 14 and 15, he figured that the tournament was out of reach. Nobilo shot two under par for the day, but that was not enough to rattle Woods.

Paired with Loren Roberts, Woods started the day in a three-way tie for first place with Roberts and Justin Leonard. Leonard made three bogeys in his first three holes, finishing in a three-way tie for third place at nine under par with Jeff Sluman and Steve Lowery.



Woods hitting an approach shot in the Western Open's final round.

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سكزاف الاصل

ART BUCHWALD

The Venetian Lagoon

VENICE — You can't go home again — you can't even go to Venice, a city of fond memories for me. I come here almost every year to swim in its sparkling waters and snorkel in the souvenir shops.

I met Katharine Hepburn in Venice when she was making the film "Summertime." She was preparing for a scene on the canal, and I was smoking a cigar as I chatted with her. She said, "That is the filthiest cigar I have ever seen. How dare you smoke while talking to me."

I immediately extinguished it as she continued to upbraid me for my behavior.



burn voice. "Oh, shut up!"

One of my fondest memories of Venice concerns the Bestegui Gala, the costume ball of the century. I went as Louis XIV in a costume I had rented in Paris; it had a few tears and included a somewhat frazzled powdered wig. I wasn't invited to the party, so I crashed it.

I arrived three hours early carrying a basket of flowers, and nobody stopped me at the door to the palace, although I did hear the security men whispering about checking my credentials. I bolted upstairs to the second floor where there appeared to be hundreds of bedroom doors. I opened one and slid under the bed. To my surprise I found two photographers already there. They told me to beat it, but I refused to go.

It turned out that the room was occupied by a beautiful guest of Bestegui. She was preparing for the ball, and since she had the loveliest ankles (which was all we could see), we decided to stay put.

Finally, after the guest left the room we crawled out from under the bed and went to join the ball.

The assistant director came up to her and said, "Miss Hepburn, we're ready to shoot."

The set was hushed, and then we heard: "Roll 'em." Suddenly Hepburn dove into the water, which was filled with every imaginable flotsam. When she climbed out someone threw a towel around her. I said, "How come you get so upset with me for smoking a cigar when you just dove into that gummy water?" She replied in that wonderful Hep-

A \$125,000 Teddy Bear

Reuters
GIENGEN, Germany — A 70-year-old teddy bear sold for 215,000 Deutsche marks (\$125,000) — just short of the world record — at auction here. The price was surpassed only by the \$158,000 paid by a Japanese buyer for a 90-year-old bear in 1994 at Christie's in London.

Even if you can't go home again, the nostalgia lingers. Bestegui, who treated all his guests like royalty, is now in heaven, his palace closed and empty. Katharine Hepburn is not here this year for her dip.

Despite this, it's still good to come back. The fire is now 165,000 to the dollar, and who can figure out what you can get for that in Italy these days?

The highlight of my visit was the moment I was presented with a Lifetime Achievement Award from American Express when my card rang up for dinner at the Cipriani Hotel.

A Second Flowering of Japanese Filmmaking

By Velisarios Kattoulas
International Herald Tribune

TOKYO — The success of Japanese directors at the Cannes film festival in May capped a remarkable five years in which, after two decades in a rut, Japan has returned to the pinnacle of world film. At the festival's 50th anniversary, Shohei Imamura's "Unagi" ("The Eel") shared the Palme d'Or for best film, and Naomi Kawase's "Suzaku" won the Camera d'Or for best first feature.

"Japanese films have had a bad reputation because of all the trash that's been produced in the last 25 years," said Aaron Gerow, a lecturer in film studies at Meiji Gakuin University in Tokyo. "But there are really a lot of good films out there again. It's just a shame it's taken the Cannes film festival to make people pay attention." In the past five years, more than a dozen Japanese films have won awards at international film festivals.

The last flowering of Japanese film came in the 1960s, when directors such as Akira Kurosawa, Nagisa Oshima and Yasujiro Ozu were at the peak of their careers. They produced films depicting a stormy nation behind a calm exterior. Families split by strife, children stripped of dreams and sword-wielding samurai in search of their destiny dominated the films, which won international acclaim for their portrayals of life as art.

For much of the three decades since, Japan has produced films of note only sporadically. The spread of television and the country's growing affluence and social stability robbed Japan's directors of both an audience and the grist for their creative mills.

Their plight was made worse by Japan's major film studios. Although they had backed Japan's master cinematographers in the 1960s, they increasingly shied away from provocative movies rooted in reality and turned to the fantasy of cheap romance instead. To this day, they continue to churn out poorly directed, badly scripted, conservatively shot films that bear little resemblance to the often tedious grind of everyday life in contemporary Japan. Without either opportunity or funding from an understanding government to make memorable films, many Japanese directors ended up making soft-core pornography for release on video or trashy romance for television.

Shohei Imamura, at 71, is considered the grandfather of the renaissance in the industry.

Ironically, the fate of independent directors started to improve only in the early 1990s, when Japan slipped into its worst postwar recession after stock and land prices crashed. Japan's economy stumbled, its society started to fragment under the strain of 50 years of rapid urbanization and economic development. People told pollsters they had lost faith in the politicians and bureaucrats, and filmmakers found themselves with a compelling story to tell.

At around the same time, new sources of funding came on stream. PLA, a publishing company, started a film festival to showcase and finance first-time filmmakers. WOWOW, a satellite television channel, started giving annual awards for short features made by independent directors. And Shochiku, one of Japan's major film studios, started Cinema Japonesque, a chain of 20 small theaters dedicated to screening independent films never shown at big theaters because they rarely draw big audiences.

Nevertheless, money remains tight and Kawase's "Suzaku" is a minimalist epic made on a minimal budget. It is a portrait of a young boy and girl in an isolated mountain village racked by depopulation, depression and the suggestion of incest.

Imamura, 71, an assistant to Ozu in the 1950s, is arguably the grandfather of the latest renaissance of Japanese film. As well as the Palme d'Or he collected for "The Eel," he won one for the "The Ballad of Narayama" in 1983. Yet he too complains about poverty. He said Shochiku, which financed "The Eel," persuaded him to make it, his first feature film in eight years, only because "of the money-less state of my affairs."

All the same, he believes the upheaval Japan has suffered in the 1990s has spawned a new generation of angry young directors capable of making gritty, true-to-life films.

"I wish I had recognized it at the time, but Japanese cinema went downhill after the 1960s because all the badness seeped out of this society," said Imamura, who plans to start filming another feature soon.

"Today many young scriptwriters dye their hair and pierce various parts of their bodies and are thoroughly bad," said Imamura, who also considers himself "bad." "But they are also the ones producing the most interesting scripts because in cinema badness is good."



Imamura and his wife at Cannes, where "The Eel" shared the Palme d'Or.



ENCORE — Members of the Boys Choir of Harlem sing out in Washington after donations from foundations, corporations and individuals erased a \$400,000 budget gap and added enough money to send another crop of choir graduates off to college.

FOR years she was the woman Britons loved to hate, blamed for turning the marriage of Prince Charles and Princess Diana into a nightmare of divorce. But Camilla Parker Bowles, whose 20-year love affair with Britain's future king has both appalled and fascinated the nation, may at last be winning some friends. Two television programs over the weekend seriously discussed the possibility that Charles would at last marry Parker Bowles, and after years of vilification in the media, public sympathy seems at last to be turning her way.

A remarriage may not be ideal but it is better than an affair outside marriage," George Austen, the Archdeacon of York, said in a BBC debate. "I believe there are grounds for accepting a second marriage, even though it may not be the kind of moral lead we might have expected from a king." And an hourlong documentary on Parker Bowles painted a picture of a woman wronged by a public still ready to embrace the more glamorous Diana. In a surprising about-turn, several British newspapers on Monday lined up with Parker Bowles who has never spoken publicly about her relationship with Charles nor complained about her treatment in the press. "Surely it is time to take a fresh look at this troubling state of affairs," wrote Ingrid Seward, editor of Majesty magazine, in the Daily Mail. "We should accept that Camilla is the one person in this

unfortunate royal love triangle who has behaved with perfect decorum."

The Mexican writer Angeles Mastretta won Venezuela's Romulo Gallegos prize for fiction, one of the Spanish language's most prestigious literary awards, for the romance "Mal de Amor." Previous winners of the prize, awarded every two years, include Gabriel Garcia Marquez and Mario Vargas Llosa.

At 75, Senator John Glenn would love to go back into space. Glenn, who became the first American to orbit the Earth 35 years ago, said he wants to help in the study of aging. He said putting older people into space would give scientists a chance to look at changes in the body's immune system during aging and to study osteoporosis. So will he go? "I want to tell you John is an outstanding astronaut," said Daniel Goldin, NASA administrator. "He has a burning desire to go back into space, and we're giving it very serious consideration."

For Sarah McLachlan, finding the talent for an all-women summer music tour was easy. Timing

was the tricky part. "If we had tried to do this three years ago, we would have been laughed at, the climate was so different," said McLachlan, founder of the traveling festival, the Lilith Fair. Among performers taking part are Tracy Chapman, Suzanne Vega and Indigo Girls.

A burly oil worker bore his wife around a 236-meter (774-foot) obstacle course to set a world record in the wife-carrying contest in Sonkajarvi, Finland. Jouni Jussila pounded over the punishing course carrying his wife, Tiina, piggyback in one minute, five seconds to retain the title.

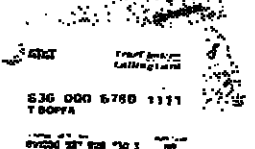
Will Smith, star of "Independence Day" and "Men in Black," is a self-confessed "conspiracy theorist." "I absolutely believe that AIDS is a result of testing in biological warfare," says Smith, the subject of US magazine's cover story. There's more: "The army's spraying the common cold in the subway system of Manhattan to test different medications." Conspiracies aside, Smith says he and girlfriend, Jada Pinkett, are happy but not quite ready for marriage. "There's no reason to rush into anything," he says. "We are very much in love and life is just so beautiful right now."



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